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History of the 53rd, or 2nd Warwickshire Regiment of Militia

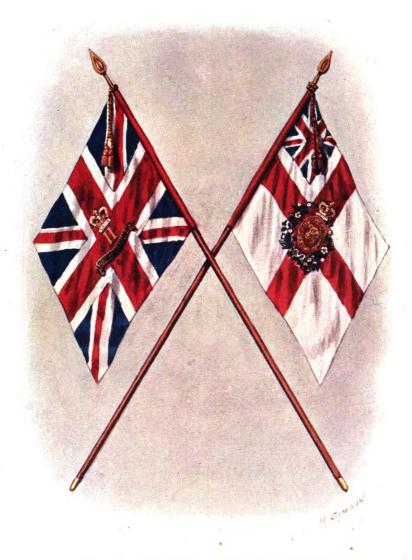


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Colours of the 53rd, or 2nd Warwick Militia, now 6th Battalion, the Royal Warwickshire Regiment.

# HISTORY

OF THE

## 53RD, OR 2ND

## WARWICKSHIRE REGIMENT OF MILITIA

NOW THE

## 6TH BATTALION

ROYAL WARWICKSHIRE REGIMENT.

#### WARWICK:

PRINTED BY EVANS & Co., "ADVERTISER" OFFICE, HIGH STREET.

1903.

N 1852 a Bill was passed re-organising the Regular Militia, consequent upon the then prevailing opinion of the necessity of strengthening the national defences against the possibility of invasion.

This Bill enabled the Crown to raise a force not exceeding 80,000 men, of which number 50,000 were to be raised in 1852 and 30,000 in 1855, the quotas for each County being fixed by an Order in Council.

The total number allotted to the County of Warwick was 2,148, which was to form two Regiments, each consisting of 1,074, to be called the 1st and 2nd Regiments of Warwickshire Militia.

1853. The 36th or Warwickshire Regiment of Militia, which had been raised before the Peace of 1763, furnished a nucleus of 300 men, who, with 500 recruits enrolled at the end of 1852 and beginning of 1853, formed the 53rd or 2nd Warwickshire Regiment of Militia.

A newspaper of the day states as follows:—

"The Deputy Lieutenants and recruiting party at Birmingham have used great exertions in endeavouring to raise their quota, having succeeded in procuring upwards of 20 recruits a week since "Christmas, but the other portions of the county have almost ceased raising any men. We hope the Deputy Lieutenants and "Parish Officers will endeavour to make up their quota and save "the County the expense of a ballot."

Major Sir T. G. Skipwith, Bart., 1st Warwickshire Militia, was appointed to the command of the 2nd Regiment.

Major F. Granville, Captains Sir T. W. Biddulph, Bart., Erasmus Galton, C. R. R. Bedford, W. R. Freer, Lieutenants C. H. Jackson, and E. Armfield were transferred from the 1st Warwickshire Militia to the 2nd.

At this period a Militiaman drew pay at the rate of one shilling per diem and paid for his rations.

The sum of £1 1s. 0d. was allowed to each man as training bounty and allowance for each of the first four periods of Training, whether the Training extended beyond the 28 days or not, and a sum of £1 6s. 0d. for the last period of training so as to complete with the enrolment bounty the full sum of £6 0s. 0d.; or at the termination of each training the sum of 10s. was paid to each man, and the further sum of 11s. between that period and the next Training.

Recruits between 18 and 35 years of age, and growing lads under the age of 18, and in special cases men over 35 years of age were enlisted for a period of five years.

Men discharged from the Army after three years' service with a good character were accepted up to the age of 45 years.

The Regiment were armed with the muzzle-loading, percussion Musket, pattern 1838.

The uniform issued to the men was the brick-red shell jacket, blue trowsers, and round, bluish forage caps. The accourrements were cross-belts, pouches, etc.

There was a sealed pattern full dress for the Officers. but none appears to have been issued to the men, except during embodiment.

The Regiment was first called up for training in April, 1853, simultaneously with the 1st Warwickshire Militia, and was billeted at Leamington, the 1st being at Warwick.

The Officers present were as follows:--

Lieutenant Colonel Sir T. G.
Skipwith, Bart., Commanding.
Major F. Granville.
Captains Hooper, Biddulph,
Galton, and Bedford.

Bedford, Howe, Beck, Beaumont, Payne, and Leake.

Lieutenants Jackson, Armfield.

Captain and Adjutant McKenzie.

The Regiment was inspected at the end of the training by Colonel Reed, C.B., commanding Midland District.

The Regiment assembled for 28 days' Training at Learnington on April 4th. Out of a total strength of 1,074, 900 were present, the deficiency being due to deaths, enlistment into the Regular Army and other causes.

The Officers present were:-

Lieutenant Colonel Sir T. G. Skipwith, Bart., Commanding.

Maior F. Grapville

Major F. Granville.

Captains Biddulph, Galton, Freer, and Chamberlain. Lieutenants Armfield, Payne, Leake, Beck, Clements, Desney (of the 2nd Lancashire Fusiliers, attached), and Wingfield.

Captain and Adjutant McKenzie.

Surgeon Brown, M.D.

On April 22nd Colours were presented to the Regiment.

The Regiment was drawn up in Parr and Wisden's Cricket Ground, Leamington, and the ceremony was largely attended by the inhabitants of Leamington and the neighbourhood.

The ceremony of consecration was performed by the Rev. T. Bowen, the chaplain, after which Majors Granville and Attye had the honour of delivering the Colours to Lady Skipwith, who handed,

with an appropriate speech, the Queen's Colour to Lieutenant Wingfield and the Regimental Colour to Lieutenant Clements.

Lieutenant Colonel Sir T. G. Skipwith then returned thanks, the Regiment subsequently marching past in slow and quick time prior to marching off the ground, when the Colours were deposited in the Regent Hotel (the Headquarters) and the Regiment dismissed.

Detachments of the various troops of the Warwickshire Yeomanry to the number of upwards of sixty men, under the command of Colonel King, were upon the ground during the proceedings.

The Regiment was inspected on May 6th by Colonel Reed, C.B., commanding the Midland District.

On July 29th of this year approval was given for the adoption of "White facings."

1855. In consequence of the war with Russia, which was then in progress, the Regiment was embodied for permanent duty on December 15th, 1854, and remained at Learnington until June 7th, when it proceeded to Aldershot.

On December 1st orders were received for the Regiment to proceed to Ireland.

Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5 Companies proceeded by rail to Lichfield, Nos. 6, 7, 8, 9, and 10 to Stafford, there to be billeted.

On December 2nd the whole proceeded to Liverpool and embarked on board the "Niagara" Steam Vessel for Dublin, en route to Armagh.

Shortly after its arrival the Regiment assisted in subduing a fire which had broken out in the County Court House of Armagh.

The following letter was sent to the Commanding Officer in acknowledgment of the services of the Regiment on the occasion:—

Armagh, Ireland, December 15th, 1855.

Sir,

I beg leave on the part of the Alliance Company through you to thank the officers and men of the Detachment for the prompt and effective aid which they rendered in subduing the fire which occurred at the County Court House yesterday evening. Nothing could exceed their zealous and active exertions, and the anxiety manifested by each and all of them, to save the building from destruction, and I shall have much pleasure in making the Company acquainted with the circumstances.

(Signed) WILLIAM PATON.

During the year 1855 no less than 460 men joined the Regular Army.

1856. On May the 11th the Regiment proceeded to Dublin and was quartered in the "Ship Street" Barracks, pending the arrival of the steamer "Cleopatra" which was to convey it to Liverpool. On June 30th the Regiment was disembodied at Leamington, after a period of over 18 months' embodied service.

The following resolutions of the House of Commons, dated May 8th, were published for general information:—

"That this House doth highly appreciate and acknowledge the services at home and abroad of the Non-commissioned officers and men of the several Corps of Militia which have been embodied in "Great Britain and Ireland during the course of the war, and that the same be communicated by the Colonel or Commanding Officers of the several Corps who are desired to thank them for their meritorious conduct.

"That the thanks of this House be given to the officers of the several Corps of Militia which have been embodied in Great Britain and Ireland during the course of the war for the zealous and meritorious services which they have rendered to their Queen and country, at home and abroad."

1857. Owing to the Mutiny in India, and consequent scarcity of Regular Troops in the United Kingdom, certain Militia

Regiments were again embodied. The 2nd Warwickshire Militia was embodied for the second time on October 14th, and remained at Leamington until November 24th (about) when it proceeded to Aldershot. The Regiment was inspected by the Lieutenant-General Commanding on November 26th.

1858. On March 10th Major Granville was appointed Lieutenant-Colonel Commandant, vice Sir T. G. Skipwith, Bart., resigned.

The Regiment was inspected on May 23rd by the Major-General Commanding.

On August 8th the Regiment went under canvas on Cove Common, and on September 11th paraded for volunteering to the 67th Regiment, about to proceed to India. There is no record of the numbers who volunteered on this particular occasion, but 251 men joined the Regular Army during the year.

About October 7th the Regiment proceeded to Devonport and was quartered at the Citadel, Plymouth.

During the time it was quartered at Aldershot the G.O.C. appears to have considered its conduct, both on parade and in quarters, to have been very satisfactory.

The Enfield Rifle was issued during this year.

1859. On May 29th the Regiment paraded for inspection by the Major-General Commanding.

On July 14th part of the right wing, viz., 2, 3, and 4 Companies, made up to 400 strong under the command of Major Galton, proceeded to Maker to be encamped.

On September 20th the Regiment moved from Plymouth by rail to Newport and Brecon, being relieved by the Dublin City Militia. The detail for Brecon consisted of Nos. 2 and 8 Companies, strength, 7 Sergeants, 4 Corporals, 4 Drummers, and 123 Privates. November 8th the Regiment was inspected by the Inspecting Field Officer.

On April 17th orders were received from the Horse Guards for the Regiment to return to Learnington for disembodiment.

The Detachment at Brecon rejoined Headquarters at Newport, and proceeded by special train to Leamington on the 23rd April, stopping at Gloucester to take up the Detachment from Bristol.

The Regiment was disembodied on April 30th, after having been embodied for a period of two years and a half, and was 30 officers and 800 privates strong.

Since it was raised in 1853 it had given the large number of 1173 men to the line, those who enlisted in the period of disembodiment not being included.

It had been quartered at Aldershot, Plymouth, and Newport, with Detachments at Brecon and Bristol.

The Officers present with Regiment at the time of its disembodiment were:-

Lieutenant Colonel F. Granville, Commanding.

Majors Galton and Reader.

Captains W. R. Freer, G. Warburton, J. H. Carew, J.

Payne, G. D. Wingfield, G. D. Perkins, M. W. Furness,

H. L. Freer, H. Howkins,

B. W. Cave Browne-Cave. Lieutenants A. de P. O. Kelly,

E. H. Vaughton, R. James,

J. T. Hyatt, G. G. Norris,

H. R. Grimes, O. L. B. Ward, J. S. Rudd, H. C. Tyron. Ensigns E. A. Hill, J. J. Howard, J. L. Freeman, B. E. Ogle, J. T. Watling. Paymaster W. Clune. Adjutant Captain R. D. Knight. Quartermaster G. J. Booker. Surgeon E. Jackson, M.D. Assistant Surgeon C. R. Williams.

The Regiment was not called up for Training this year, but 1861. Bounties were paid at Birmingham and Coventry.

The 2nd Warwickshire Militia under Lieutenant Colonel 1862. commanding, assembled on May 8th Granville, Leamington for training, 21 days, and recruits drill, 14 days.

The Inspection took place at Learnington on May 26th.

1863. The two Warwickshire Regiments of Militia assembled for 21 days' Training, at their respective Headquarters at Warwick and Leamington, on April 24th; the recruits being called up 14 days previously.

The 2nd Warwickshire Militia was inspected on Parr and Wisden's Cricket Ground, Leamington, by Colonel Foley, Assistant Quartermaster General of the Manchester District.

The strength of the Regiment was: -

Lieut. Colonel.	Major.	Captains.	Lieuts.	Staff.	Sergt. Major.	Sergts	Drm- mers.	Rank and File.
1	1	9	Not Stated.	4	1	38	9	725

1864. The Regiment assembled for training at Leamington on April 21st, the recruits being called up 14 days previously.

On May 6th it was inspected by Colonel Adams, 49th Regiment, Lord Leigh, the Lord Lieutenant of the county, being present.

The following Officers were present with the Regiment:

Lieutenant Colonel Granville, commanding. Majors Carew and Granville. Captains Freer, Perkins, Furness, Howard, Hyatt, Ogle, James, and Norris.

Lieutenants Gildea, Townsend, and Allenby. Captain and Adjutant Knight.

Captain and Adjutant Knight. Surgeon Jackson.

Assistant Surgeon Marriott.

Quartermaster Booker.

1865. Instructions were issued to the Lord Lieutenant of the county for the 2nd Warwickshire Militia to assemble on May 15th for training at Leamington, the recruits being called up seven days previous to this date.

The Regiment was inspected this year by Colonel Pipon, the Lord Lieutenant of the county, Lord Leigh, being present.

The strength was as follows: -

Lieut. Colonel.	Majors.	Captains.	Lieuts.	Staff.	Sergt. Major.	Sergts	Cor- porals.	Rank and File.
1	2	8	2	4	1	32	23	540

At the end of the training the Chief of Police in Leamington wrote a letter to Lieutenant Colonel Granville, testifying to the excellent conduct of the men during the time they had been out.

1866. The Regiment was assembled at Leamington for 27 days' training on April 26th, and was inspected by Major General Pipon, Inspecting General.

The following extract from the Leanington Advertiser of May 25th, 1866, may be found of interest:—

OFFICIAL INSPECTION OF THE SECOND WARWICKSHIRE MILITIA.

The men of this Regiment were officially inspected by Major-General Pipon in the Cricket Field on Monday, when their annual period of training in this town expired. The weather being fine, there was a large assemblage of spectators. The reviewing officer was accompanied by Lord Leigh, Major Machen, and Colonel Wise. of the First Warwick Regiment. The inspection, which opened at eleven o'clock, continued until nearly one; the whole of the movements were pronounced by competent judges, cleverly performed. The following was the strength of the Regiment:—Colonel Granville: Major Carew; Captains Perkins, Furness, Howkins, Hvatt, Norris. Ward, Howard, Ogle, Gildea; Lieutenants Allenby, Gregg, Payler, Spy, Stiff; Captain and Adjutant R. D. Knight; Quartermaster G. E. Booker: Surgeon E. Jackson; Assistant-Surgeon C. W. Marriott; Sergeant-Major Mark; thirty-three sergeants, twenty-six corporals. ten drummers, and 541 privates. Colonel Granville put the men through the following movements:-Wheeled into line and general salute; marched past in slow time, officers saluting; marched past in quick time; marched past in quarter distance columns, and wheeled into line. Major Carew next took command, and the men were thoroughly drilled in the manual and platoon exercise, and in bayonet exercise by Captain and Adjutant Knight. direction of Major Carew the men went through these evolutions:— Fired, and advanced by wings; formed line on the right wing: formed the right of companies, past by fours to the rear and formed square on the left centre company, and fired in square; re-formed column and deployed into line on No. 3 Company; line advanced and changed front on No. 2 Company, left front back the quarter circle. covered on the flank by No. 1 Company, and skirmishing, the fronts covered by No. 10 Company; skirmishers called in by bugle sound and the line commenced firing one round by Companies, front rank kneeling, from centre to flanks; advanced in eschelon of companies from the left at wheeling distance, halt by bugle sound, formed Company squares by bugle sound and prepared to resist cavalry. fired in square and reformed column by bugle; formed line on No. 5 Company; changed front on No. 5 Company; right thrown back quarter circle; left advanced in review. Captain Perkins was then called out and requested to form quarter distance column on the left centre Company; he then retired the columns, changed front by the wheel of sub-divisions round the centre. Under the direction of the reviewing officer, Captain Furness was next requested to take the command, form line from column, and was thanked, after which Captain Norris formed quarter distance column on the right centre Company. Lieutenant Allenby next marched out his Company for

drill, and gave great satisfaction, as did also Lieutenant Gregg with his Company. The permanent staff was then inspected; next the volunteer sergeants, corporals, and then the recruits who have enlisted since the last inspection. The General remarked that they were a smart body of men.

#### MAJOR-GENERAL PIPON,

addressing Colonel Granville, said he was very glad to have another opportunity of renewing his acquaintance with the 2nd Warwickshire Militia, and to be able to say to the men the same as he said this time last year, namely, that he was perfectly satisfied with all he had seen. The men had turned out clean, they were very steady under arms, and altogether the Regiment presented a soldierly appearance. Such a state of things was creditable to the men and officers, while the Regiment itself was a valuable accession to the public service. He was also pleased to have learned from the Commanding Officer, Colonel Granville, that the conduct of the men had been satisfactory throughout the period of training, and it would give him great pleasure in making a favourable report as to the efficiency of the Regiment to the Secretary of State for War.

Headed by their excellent band, the men were then marched

back to the Barracks on the Radford Road, where

#### LORD LEIGH

delivered a brief address to them before giving in their arms and appointments. His Lordship observed that he could not refrain from congratulating them on the admirable manner in which they had performed their duties. Having had the pleasure of attending several annual inspections, he could say that, on each occasion they had shown a marked improvement. It would be presumptuous in him to praise them, after the complimentary terms of Major-General Pipon, but he would say that the gallant officer had not spoken one word too much in their favour. There was one other matter on which he wished to congratulate them—their admirable behaviour during their stay in Leamington. He believed he was correct in stating that there had been scarcely one word of complaint against any member of the Regiment, and he hoped when they again assembled for training they would conduct themselves as satisfactorily as they had done this year. Everybody in the county was indebted to Mr. Southern, and the ladies and gentlemen who had co-operated with him in promoting the welfare of the Regiment. He (Lord Leigh) had not been present at any of the entertainments which had been given them this year, but he had heard they had been exceedingly good, and he was sure all felt grateful to Mr. Southern for the trouble he had taken to instruct and interest them. In conclusion his Lordship expressed his solicitude for the welfare of the Regiment, and hoped that his life might be spared many years to attend the annual inspections.

#### COLONEL GRANVILLE

said he had so often told them how gratifying it was for him to see them obtain the approval, not only of the officer who came to inspect them, but also that of the Lord Lieutenant of the County, that it was unnecessary for him to make the same remark again. And they had also so often heard him speak on the subject of drill and general behaviour, that it would be a waste of time now to advert to those But he must thank them most heartily for their conduct, and also for the way in which they had performed their drill. had received a communication from his Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge, the Commander-in-Chief, who had on various occasions complimented the Second Warwick Militia, particularly during the period they were stationed at Aldershot, and he was pleased to say that his Royal Highness had entered into his views in one respect, namely, in offering facilities for Militiamen to join the Army. man who was anxious to serve her Majesty in the cavalry or other regiments, might join now with advantage. They well knew that he had never refused any man who wished to join the Army, but he was sorry to say some had fraudulently enlisted. His Royal Highness. the Commander-in-Chief, had informed him (Colonel Granville) that he would take five per cent. into the Army of those Militiamen who had completed their full service, and as an inducement he had agreed that a sum of eighteen shillings and sixpence usually charged to the men should be dispensed with. The profession of the soldier was a most honourable one, and it was easy for a man to raise himself to a good position by honesty and integrity. As an instance of that he might refer to Sergeant-Major Mark, who was at the head of the non-commissioned officers, and held a distinguished position. In the Army every man would have an opportunity of raising himself and gaining promotions, which would be of great service in his The Captains of each Company would receive the names of those men who were willing to join the Army, after which they would be inspected by the Medical Officer, and sent up to London to He had received a notification that the Militia be duly enrolled. would be called out for training again next year, for which he hoped every man would hold himself in readiness. In conclusion the Colonel sincerely thanked them for their good conduct throughout the training.

May 25th, 1866.

1867. The 1st and 2nd Regiments of Warwickshire Militia were assembled for 27 days' training on May 6th, the 1st at Warwick, the 2nd at Leamington, the recruits being called up 14 days previously.

The 2nd Warwickshire Militia was inspected on May 29th by Major General Pipon, the Inspector General of Militia.

During this year an Officer of the Royal Engineers made an inspection of the stores at Headquarters, Rudford Road, Leamington, and several alterations were made in order to make them secure from attack.

The Snider Breech-loading Rifle was issued to the Permanent Staff of the Regiment, replacing the Enfield Rifle issued in 1858.

A Reading Room and Library for the use of the Permanent Staff was opened at Headquarters.

Instructions were issued for the formation of the "Militia Reserve." The men who formed the Reserve were liable, in case of imminent national danger or great emergency, to be called out on permanent service and transferred to the Regular Army, becoming for all purposes soldiers of the Regular Forces.

The quota allotted to the Regiment was 200, and the men received a yearly Bounty of £1 0s. 0d.

The Regiment assembled at Learnington for 27 days' training, the recruits being called up 14 days before. The inspection took place on May 21st. The inspecting officer was Colonel Cooper, of the 70th Regiment of Foot, who was accompanied by Lord Leigh, the Lord Lieutenant of the County.

The officers present were as follows:-

Lieutenant Colonel Granville, Commanding Major Carew Captains Perkins. Furness, Howkins, Ogle, Gildea, and Allenby

Lieutenants Payler and Gregg Captain and Adjutant Knight Quarter-Master Booker Surgeon-Major Jackson Assistant-Surgeon Marriott

1869. The Regiment assembled for training at Leamington and was inspected by the Hon. James Lindsay, Inspector General of Reserve Forces.

Two men of the Regiment were recommended for the Medal of the Royal Humane Society for saving two children from drowning.

The officers present were:---

Lieutenant Colonel Granville, Commanding Majors Carew and Perkins Captains Furness, Howkins, Norris, Ogle, Allenby, Gildea, and Payler Lieutenant Wilcox Captain and Adjutant Knight Quarter-Master Booker Surgeon-Major Jackson, M.D. Assistant-Surgeon Marriott

1870. The 2nd Warwickshire Militia was assembled at Leamington for 27 days' training.

1871. Colonel Herbert, Assistant Adjutant General of Birmingham, inspected the Regiment this year.

The strength was :--

Lie . Colonel.	Majors.	Captains	Lieuts.	Staff.	Sergt. Major.	Serg'ts.	Corporals.	Rank & File.
1	2	9	8	4	1	33	36	738

Officers present were as follows:--

Colonel Granville, Commanding Lieutenant Colonel Carew Majors Perkins and Ogle Captains Furness, Norris, Gildea, Allenby, Payler, Grant, Hamilton, Gregg Lieutenants Wilcox, Windsor, Moore, Adams, Read, Osborne, Payler Surgeon-Major Jackson, M.D. Assistant-Surgeon Marriott Quartermaster Booker

1872. In March the Regiment was informed that it would be required to attend the Autumn Manœuvres, the place of concentration being Salisbury Plain, and the period of training six weeks. This order, however was cancelled, owing to it having been found necessary to reduce the number of Auxiliary Forces to be present, and the Regiment assembled for 27 days' training on August 5th at Leamington.

Colonel A. C. Robertson, Commanding the 8th (King's) Regiment inspected the Regiment on August 29th.

1873. During this year power was given to enlist Militiamen for a period not exceeding six years.

The following were the arrangements for training: The recruits to assemble on March 10th for 12 weeks, and not to be required to attend the training of the Regiment; the Regiment to assemble for 27 days' training on June 9th.

Colonel R. Macleod Fraser inspected the Regiment on July 3rd.

1874. The recruits assembled at Leamington for 12 weeks' drill on March 2nd.

The Regiment assembled on June 1st and was dismissed on June 27th.

The following Badge was approved by the War Office to be worn on the Glengarry caps, viz., a Lion's head crowned and surrounded by a heart-shaped ribband and forget-me-nots. The ribband bearing the designation of the Regiment and a motto in old Norman French "Souveigne vous de Moy."

This was the Badge of the Warwickshire Domesday Book, and was worn by Henry, son of John of Gaunt, afterwards Henry IV., at the famous tournament at Coventry.

1875. Sergeant-Major John Mark, who had been Sergeant-Major of the Regiment for some years, died on March 23rd.

The recruits assembled on March 22nd for 8 weeks' drill.

The Regiment assembled at Leamington for 27 days' training on May 24th.

1876. The recruits assembled for 55 days' preliminary drill on April 10th.

The Regiment assembled for 27 days' training at Leamington on June 12th.

1877. The recruits assembled for 55 days' preliminary drill on February 26th, and the Regiment assembled for 27 days' training on April 13th.

This was the last training performed by the Regiment at Leamington.

On October 2nd the Headquarters and the whole of the arms and stores were removed from the County Buildings at Leamington, and placed in the Armoury in Budbrooke Barracks, near Warwick, as a part of the 28th Brigade Depôt.

1878. On January 29th Colonel Fred Granville, who had commanded the Regiment since February 15th, 1858, resigned the command, and was appointed Honorary Colonel.

Colonel G. D. S. Perkins assumed the command on March 2nd.

On April 9th the Recruits assembled for 82 days' training, and the Regiment on June 3rd for 27 days' training, the whole being billeted and lodged in the town of Warwick.

The Militia Reserve being called to Army Service by Proclamation dated April 3rd, the Reserve men of the Regiment, 223 in number, were ordered to join Headquarters accordingly, and the following is the result of the mobilization:—207 joined Headquarters, of which number 174 were retained for Army Service, 152 with the Depôt 2nd 6th Regiment at Dover, and 22 with the Grenadier Guards, 33 were discharged as unfit for Army Service.

On June 26th and 27th the Regiment was inspected by Colonel J. H. Dunne, commanding 28th Sub-District.

On July 31st the Militia Reserve men rejoined Headquarters on being no longer required with the Army.

1879. On April 21st the recruits, numbering 244, assembled at Warwick for 56 days' preliminary drill and 20 days' training.

On June 16th the Regiment assembled at Warwick for 20 days' training, the men being billeted in the town.

On July 3rd the Regiment was inspected by Colonel J. H. Dunne, commanding the 28th Sub-District.

1880. On May 10th the recruits, numbering 257, assembled at Warwick for 56 days' preliminary drill and 27 days' training.

On July 5th the Regiment assembled at Warwick for 27 days' training.

On July 28th the Regiment was inspected by Colonel J. H. Dunne, commanding 28th Sub-District.

1881. On May 9th the recruits assembled for 56 days' preliminary drill and 27 days' training.

The Regiment assembled at Warwick on July 5th for 27 days' training.

The Regiment was inspected on July 27th by Major-General W. G. Cameron, C.B., commanding the Northern District.

Strength on parade as follows:-

Lieut. Colonel.	Majors.	Capta'ns.	Sub- alterns.	Staff.	Sergeant Major.	Sergeants,	Corporals.	Drum'rs.	Privates.	Total all Ranks.
1	2	6	10	2	1	21	28	8	597	676

The Regiment was affiliated with the Line Battalions from July 1st, and bore from that date the Territorial designation of the 4th Battalion Royal Warwickshire Regiment.

The facings were changed from White to Blue, the Bear and Ragged Staff substituted for the Antelope as the Collar Badge, the Cap Badge of Crown and Garter with the Antelope in centre replaced the Lion's Head crowned and surrounded by a heart-shaped ribband and forget-me-nots with the motto "Souveigne Vous de Moy."

The lace on the Tunics was changed from silver to gold, and the buttons and badges, formerly white metal, were now of brass.

From July 1st recruits on enlistment joined the District Depôt and trained for 63 days, instead of being called up for 56 days' preliminary drill prior to the Annual Training.

The Martini-Henry Rifle was issued during this year.

1882. On June 5th the Battalion was assembled at Warwick for 27 days' training, and was inspected on June 28th by Colonel W. Fitzroy.

Strength on parade as follows:-

Lieut. Colonel.	Majors.	Captains.	Sub- alterns.	Staff.	Sergeant Major.	Sergeants.	Corporals.	Drum'rs.	Privates.	Total all Ranks.
1	2	7	7	2	1	22	26	7	545	620

1883. The Battalion assembled at Warwick for 27 days' training on July 2nd; it was inspected on July 27th by Colonel H. B. Feilden, Commanding 6th Regimental District.

Strength on Parade as follows:-

Lieut. Colonel.	Majors.	Captains.	Sub- alterns.	Staff.	Sergeant Major.	Sergeants.	Corporals.	Drum'rs.	Privates.	Total all R mk 4.
1	2	6	7	2	1	22	26	8	687	768

1884. On May 5th the Battalion assembled at Warwick for 27 days' training.

It was inspected on May 22nd by Colonel H. B. Feilden, Commanding 6th Regimental District.

Strength on parade as follows:-

Lieut. Colonel.	Majors.	Captains.	Sub- alterns.	Staff.	Sergeant Major.	Sergeants.	Corporal∗.	Drum'rs.	Privates.	Total all Ranks.
1	2	7	2	2	1	25	25	2	554	633

1885. On July 6th the Battalion assembled at Warwick for 27 days' training.

It was inspected on July 30th by Colonel H. B. Feilden, Commanding 6th Regimental District.

Strength on parade as follows:—

Lieut. Colonel.	Majors.	Captains.	Sub- alterns.	Staff.	Sergeant Major.	Sergeants.	Corporals.	Drum'rs.	Privates.	Total all Rank∗.
1	1	6	9	2	1	29	24	8	653	734

During the month of September Valise equipment was issued to the Battalion in place of the Knapsack.

1886. The Battalion assembled at Warwick for training on 21st June, and was inspected on July 10th by Colonel H. B. Feilden, Commanding 6th Regimental District.

Strength on parade as follows:-

Lieut. Colonel.	Majors.	Captains.	Sub- alterns.	Staff.	Sergeant Major.	Sergeants.	Corporals.	Drum'rs.	Privates.	Total all Ranks.
1	1	6	10	2	1	29	28	8	600	686

The Battalion assembled for training on June 6th, and proceeded to Stratford-on-Avon where it was encamped. This was the first year in which it had been placed under canvas for training. It was inspected on June 29th by Colonel H. B. Feilden, Commanding 6th Regimental District.

Strength on parade as follows: -

Lieut. Colonel.	Majors.	Captains.	Sub- alterns,	Staff.	Sergeant Major	Sergeants.	Corporals.	Drum'rs.	Privates.	Total all Ranks.
1	2	8	11	2	1	30	32	8	695	785

1888. On June 26th Lieutenant-Colonel and Hon. Colonel G. D. S. Perkins, who had commanded the Battalion since March 2nd, 1878, resigned his commission, and was succeeded by Lieutenant-Colonel M. W. Furniss.

The Battalion assembled for training on July 2nd and was encamped at Stratford-on-Avon.

On July 26th it was inspected by Major-General C. Daniell, C.B., commanding the Northern District, and on July 26th by Colonel H. D. O. Farrington, Commanding 6th Regimental District.

Strength on parade as follows:-

Lieut. Colonel.	Major.	Captains.	Sub- alterns.	Staff.	Sergeant Major.	Sergeants.	Corporals.	Drum'rs.	Privates.	Total all Ranks.
1	1	5	11	2	1	37	30	8	734	830

On October 6th Colonel G. D. S. Perkins (retired) was appointed Honorary Colonel of the Battalion.

The Battalion assembled for 27 days' training on June 17th, and was encamped on the Warwick Race Course. The annual course of musketry was carried out at Stoneleigh Deer Park.

On July 12th the Battalion was inspected by Colonel H. D. O. Farrington, Commanding 6th Regimental District.

Strength on parade as follows:---

Lieut. Colonel.	Major.	Captains.	Sub- alterns.	Staff.	Sergeant Major.	Sergeants.	Corporals.	Drum'rs.	Privates.	Total all Ranks.
1	1	7	12	2	1	36	32	8	776	876

1890. The Battalion assembled at Warwick on June 2nd for 27 days' training. It was inspected by Colonel H. D. O. Farrington, Commanding 6th Regimental District.

Strength on parade as follows:—

Licut. Colonel.	Majors.	Captains.	Sub- alterns.	Staff.	Sergeant Major.	Sergeants.	Corporals,	Drum'rs.	Privates.	Total all Ranks.
1	2	7	11	2	1	35	25	7	624	715

On October 3rd, Lieutenant Colonel M. W. Furniss who had commanded the Battalion since 27th June, 1888, retired, and was succeeded by Lieutenant Colonel J. Gildea.

1891. On June 15th the Recruits assembled for the preliminary course of musketry.

On June 29th the Battalion assembled at Warwick for 27 days' training.

Strength on day of inspection as follows:—

Lieut. Colonel.	Majors.	Captains.	Sub- alterns.	Staff.	Sergeant Major.	Sergeants.	Corporals.	Drum'rs.	Privates.	Total all Runks.
1	2	7	11	2	1	32	22	7	733	818

On July 21st the Battalion proceeded by special train to Birmingham to take part in the reception of their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales.

On the arrival route the Battalion furnished a guard of honour of 1 captain, 2 subalterns, 100 rank and file, with the Queen's colour and band at the Council House, and lined the route from the Grand Hotel, Colmore Row, to the Council House.

On the return route the Battalion lined the route from the Council House to Congreve Street, Edmund Street to corner of the Reference Library.

1892. On May 16th the recruits assembled for Musketry.

The Battalion assembled on May 30th, at Warwick, for 27 days' training.

On 22nd June the Battalion was inspected by Colonel H. D. O. Farrington, Commanding 6th Regimental District.

Strength on parade as follows:—

Lieut. Colonel.	Major.	Captains.	Sub- alterns.	Staff.	Sergeant Major.	Sergeants.	Corporals,	Drum'rs.	Privates.	Total all Ranks.
1	1	7	11	2	1	34	22	8	<b>7</b> 56	837

1893. On June 12th the recruits, numbering 201, assembled and marched to Stoneleigh Deer Park for Musketry.

The Battalion assembled at Warwick on June 26th for 27 days' training and was encamped on the "Star Close."

It was inspected on July 20th by Colonel W. S. Mair, Commanding 6th Regimental District.

Strength on parade as follows:—

Licut. Colonel.	Majors.	Captains.	Sub- alterns,	Staff.	Sergeant Major.	Sergeants.	Согрога!я.	Drum'rs.	Privates,	Total all Ranks.
1	2	5	12	2	1	34	30	7	875	969

On May 14th the recruits, 166 in number, assembled at Warwick and proceeded by rail, under Captain and Hon. Major Kelso and Lieutenant Ludford-Astley, to Stratford-on-Avon, and encamped on Bourdon Hill for the course of musketry.

Captain V. S. Smyth, 2nd Royal Warwickshire Regiment, was appointed Instructor of Musketry.

On May 28th the Battalion assembled at Warwick for 27 days' training, and was encamped on the "Star Close."

The following officers were present at training:

Colonel J. Gildea, Commanding.

Majors H. L. B. McCalmont and W. H. Schofield.

Captain and Hon. Majors J. E. R. Campbell and A. Kelso.

Captains A. E. Morrall, G. D'. E. H. Fullerton, E. W. Dawes, J. H. Collier (3rd East Kent Regiment), O. S. Vale (4th Worcester Regiment). Lieutenants J. B. Ludford-Astley, C. H. L. Beatty, W. E. Molyneux, C. Leigh, G. Gem, H. C. T. Parker, P. J. Foster, T. J. Gosset.

Second Lieutenants H. S. H. Cavendish, A. Hill, J. E. Leigh, C. A. L. French.

Captain and Adjutant D. Granville.

Lieut. and Quartermaster W. Hall.

On the 21st June the Battalion was inspected by Colonel W. S. Mair, Commanding 6th Regimental District.

Strength on parade as follows:—

Licut. Colonel.	Majors.	Captains.	Sub- alterns.	Staff.	Sergeant Major.	Sergeants.	Corporals.	Drum'rs.	Privates.	Total all Ranks.
1	2	7	12	1	_ 1	32	28	8	623	716

During this year the wearing of the "Bear and Ragged Staff" on the Tunic was discontinued, and the "Antelope" substituted. The Lee-Metford Rifle, Mark 1\* was issued to the Battalion in place of the Martini-Henry.

On June 10th the recruits assembled at Warwick and proceeded by road, under command of Captain and Hon. Major A. Kelso and Captain W. H. Davenport, to Chesterton, and were encamped near Harwood's House to perform the course of Musketry.

Lieutenant A. E. Vincent, 1st Royal Warwickshire Regiment, was appointed Instructor of Musketry.

On the 24th June the Battalion assembled at Warwick, and was encamped on the "Star Close" for 27 days' training.

The undermentioned officers were present at training:-

Colonel J. Gildea, Commanding.

Major J. E. R. Campbell.

Captain and Hon. Major A. Kelso.

Captains A. E. Morrall, J. B. Ludford-Astley, C. H. L. Beatty, W. H. Davenport, A. E. Williams. Lieutenant P. J. Foster.

Second Lieutenants J. E. Leigh, C. A. L. French, C. W. Brown, A.T.Fletcher, C.F. Vanderbyl, J. Turle, C. Langford.

Capt. and Adjutant D. Granville. Lieutenant and Quartermaster W. Hall.

The Battalion was inspected on July 18th, Colonel F. W. Cary Commanding 53rd Regimental District.

Strength as follows :---

Lieut. Colonel.	Major.	Captains.	Sub- alterns.	Staff.	Sergeant Major.	Sergeants.	Corporals.	Drum'rs.	Privates.	Total all Ranks,
· 1	1	8	8	2	1	34	26	8	620	709

1896. On May 18th the recruits, 178 in number, assembled at Warwick, and proceeded by road, under command of Capt. and Hon. Major A. Kelso and Captain J. B. Ludford-Astley, to Chesterton, and camped near Harwood's House for the course of Musketry.

On the 1st June the Battalion assembled at Warwick, and was encamped on the "Star Close" for 27 days' training.

Captain W. H. Davenport was appointed Instructor of Musketry.

The following officers were present at the training: -

Colonel J. Gildea, Commanding.

Majors H. L. B. McCalmont and J. E. R. Campbell.

Captain and Hon. Major A. Kelso.

Captains A. E. Morrall, G. D'. E. H. Fullerton, E. W. Dawes, J. B. Ludford-Astley, C. H. L. Beatty, W. H. Davenport. Lieutenants H. C. T. Parker, P. J. Foster, J. E. Leigh.

2nd Lieutenants C. W. Brown, A. T. Fletcher, C. F. Vanderbyl, J. Turle, C. Langford, C. Crabbe, A. W. Jaffray, E. P. Gayer.

Captain and Adjutant D. Granville.

Lieutenant and Quartermaster W. Hall.

On June 17th the Battalion (six strong companies) proceeded on a march through the county. It railed from Warwick to Hockley Station, and from thence marched through Birmingham to Thorpe Street Drill Hall, where it was hospitably entertained by the 1st V.B. Royal Warwickshire Regiment, whence it marched to Packington and encamped on the Race Course.

On the 18th it marched to Coventry and encamped on Whitley Common.

On the 19th it proceeded to Stoneleigh Deer Park,  $vi\hat{a}$  Kenilworth, and encamped there for the night.

On the 20th the Battalion paraded in the morning for Outpost Duty, and in the afternoon returned to Warwick, via Leanington.

The strength of the column was as follows:-

Licut. Colonel.	Majors.	Captains.	Sub- alterns.	Staff.	Sergeant Major.	Sergeants.	Corporals,	Drum'rs.	Privates.	Total all Rar.ks.
1	2	7	9	2	1	29	21	8	450	530

1897. On May 1st the recruits assembled at Warwick and proceeded by special train, under command of Captain and Adjutant D. Granville, to Lydd for the course of Musketry.

Captain and Hon. Major E. W. Dawes was appointed Instructor of Musketry.

On 24th May the Battalion assembled for 31 days' training, and proceeded to Worthing in Sussex, where it was encamped in Brigade with the 1st and 3rd Battalions Royal Sussex Regiment.

The following officers were present at training: -

Colonel J. Gildea, Commanding.

Majors H. L. B. McCalmont and J. E. R. Campbell.

Captain and Hon. Majors A. Kelso, Captain G. D'. E. H. Fullerton, Captain and Hon. Major E. W. Dawes, Captains J. B. Ludford-Astley, C. H. L. Beatty, W. H. Davenport, A. E. Williams.

Lieutenants A. T. Fletcher, C. Crabbe.

2nd Lieutenants R. C. Hamilton, Lord H. Seymour, G. S. Renny, G. Hutton-Riddell, P. F. Coë.

Captain and Adjutant D. Granville.

Lieutenant and Quartermaster W. Hall.

On June 18th the Battalion was inspected by Colonel W. Tolson, Commanding the Troops, Worthing.

Strength on parade as follows:-

Lieut. Colonel.	Majors.	Captains.	Sub- alterns.	Staff.	Sergeant Major.	Sergeants.	Corporals.	Drum'rs.	Privates.	Total all Ranks.
1	2	8	7	2	1	34	25	8	545	633

On June 27th the Battalion was represented in London at the Diamond Jubilee of H.M. the Queen by a detachment of 8 officers and 200 other ranks.

Owing to the Royal Warwickshire Regiment being increased by two Line Battalions, the Militia Battalions were renumbered 5th and 6th respectively.

The Home Service Pattern Helmet was issued to the Battalion.

On June 6th the recruits assembled at Warwick and proceeded by train, under command of Captain and Adjutant F. G. F. Browne, to Ross in Herefordshire for the course of Musketry.

The total strength of the party was 10 officers, 368 other ranks.

On June 20th the Battalion assembled at Warwick and proceeded to Ross for 27 days' training, where it was encamped with the 3rd Battalion Worcestershire Regiment.

The following officers were present at the training:-

Colonel J. Gildea, Commanding.

Majors H. L. B. McCalmont and J. E. R. Campbell.

Captain and Hon. Major A. Kelso, Captain G. D'. E. H. Fullerton, Captain and Hon. Major E. W. Dawes, Captains J. B. Ludford-Astley, C. H.

L. Beatty, W. H. Davenport, E. A. Williams, G. I. Phillips.

Lieutenants C. Crabbe, R. C. Hamilton, Lord H. Seymour. G. S. Renny, G. H. Riddell, P. F. Coë.

2nd Lieutenants R. H. Rose, R. J. Collins, C. B. Mitford, T. A. Smallwood, J. E. N. Heseltine.

Captain and Adjutant F. G. F. Browne.

Lieutenant and Quartermaster W. Hall.

Captain and Hon. Major E. W. Dawes was appointed Instructor of Musketry.

The Battalion returned from Ross to Warwick by route march. On July 9th it marched to Gloucester (16 miles), halted for Sunday, July 10th, attending Divine Service at Gloucester Cathedral.

On the 11th it proceeded to Cheltenham (9 miles), the 12th to Broadway (18 miles), 13th to Stratford-on-Avon (16 miles), on the 14th to Warwick (8 miles).

The Battalion was encamped at each of the above named places, the camp equipment being taken with it.

The weather throughout the march was very hot, and the heat and dust tried the men rather severely, as they were not accustomed to marching.

The following newspaper extract may be found of interest:—

### THE SIXTH WARWICKSHIRE MILITIA.

#### MARCH FROM ROSS то WARWICK.

#### SUNDAY IN CAMP AT GLOUCESTER.

The Sixth Warwickshire Militia started on Saturday morning upon their march of 61 miles from camp at Ross to Warwick, the first stage bringing them to Gloucester. The Battalion were astir soon after four o'clock, and the tents were struck at an early hour and sent forward in baggage waggons. About 6.15 a.m. the Battalion paraded in light marching order, consisting of straps, braces, belt, two pouches, rolled cape, canteen, haversack, and water bottle, and about 7.15 the march was commenced. Advance and rear guards were thrown out at either end of the main column, the idea being to

secure the latter from surprise by enemies should the country traversed be a hostile one. The advance and rear guards consisted of one company each, and they were spread out to a distance of about 1.200 vards, so with the main body in the centre (with the drums and colours) the space occupied by the whole Battalion whilst on the march was about three-quarters of a mile. The band was in front, and played for some distance along the route. A good number The 3rd Worcesterof spectators witnessed the men's departure. shire Band played them out to the tunes of "The girl I left behind me," and "Auld Lang Syne." During the march the men were treated to a regulation halt of five minutes each hour, and at the half-way stopping place they were regaled with mineral water and The pace observed was three miles and a half per hour, so the camp at Oxleaze, Gloucester, was timed to be reached about mid-day. One of the Alton Court Brewery conveyances accompanied the Battalion on the march with refreshments, and drays belonging to the same company were provided for carrying beer to the various camps on the route. Messrs. James Barnwell and Son had the providing of the groceries on the march, but it was arranged that bread, meat, milk, and vegetables should be purchased regimentally at each camping site.

The Battalion band and drums of the 2nd V.B. Gloucester Regiment turned out for the purpose of playing the Warwickshire Battalion into Gloucester, and thus giving the visitors an official military welcome to the ancient city. At ten minutes to one o'clock the first detachment to arrive were drawn up on the other side of the Dog Hotel, Over. Major McCalmont, M.P., mounted on a magnificent black charger, was amongst the officers who were at The remainder of the Battalion were not the head of the march. long before they made their appearance, and the whole having been drawn up at attention the final stage of the march was commenced. The Militiamen picked up a lot of dust in the course of their 16 miles' march, and, in consequence of the great heat experienced, were very tired, one or two of the younger recruits looking as if they had not much power in reserve. "Let us see you march in smart," said Major McCalmont to his men just as they were starting from Over, and they did their best to do so, despite their travel-stained appearance, the bands playing them in. A large crowd of people were in the vicinity of Westgate Bridge when the soldiers arrived at Oxleaze, and their appearance excited much interest. The camp was reached at 1.30, and after various movements had been gone through the arms were piled, and preparations made for dinner, for which the march had given the men sharpened appetites. Some of the baggage waggons had preceded the Battalion, and the others brought The work of pitching tents was afterwards up the rear. accomplished.



Officer, 53rd, or 2nd Warwick Militia, 1855. Review Order.

The full strength of the Regiment is 24 officers and 753 non-commissioned officers and men. It was quite a sight to see the tents go up. They were laid on the ground, and the pegs with guy ropes attached having been driven in, the centre poles were raised with a simultaneous thrust at the sound of a bugle, and thus in the twinkling of an eye all the tents sprang up together like so many mammoth mushrooms. Crowds of people visited the camp during the afternoon.

The Battalion encamped at Oxleaze, by permission of the City Council, who provided the necessary water, and the Committee representing the Freemen and Commoners. It stayed at Gloucester for the Sunday and attended service at the Cathedral, and on Monday morning proceeded to Cheltenham, on Tuesday to Broadway, on Wednesday to Stratford-on-Avon, and on Thursday arrived at Warwick, the annual inspection being held on Friday, and the Battalion disbanded on Saturday, July 16th.

The 5th Royal Warwickshire (late 3rd) succeed the 6th Royal Warwickshire Battalion at Ross.—Hereford Times, Saturday, July 16th, 1898.

On July 16th the Battalion paraded in drill order for inspection by Colonel E. Nesbitt, Commanding 6th Regimental District.

The strength on parade was as follows:-

Lieut. Colonel.	Majors.	Captains.	Sub- alterns.	Staff.	Sergeant Major.	Sergeants.	Corporals.	Drum'rs.	Privates.	Total all Ranks.
1	2	8	11	2	1	34	31	7	655	752

On October 29th Lieutenant-Colonel and Hon. Colonel J. Gildea, C.B., who had commanded the Battalion since 21st October, 1890, retired and was succeeded by Lieutenant-Colonel H. L. B. McCalmont, M.P.

1899. On June 12th the recruits assembled at Warwick, and proceeded by train to Ross in Herefordshire, under command of Captain and Adjutant F. G. F. Browne, for the course of Musketry.

The total strength of the party was 8 officers, 368 other ranks.

On June 26th the Battalion assembled at Warwick and proceeded to Ross for 27 days' training, where it was encamped. The 6th Battalion Worcester Regiment was also encamped in the same field.

The following officers were present at training:--

Lieutenant-Colonel H. L. B. McCalmont, M.P., Commanding.

Major and Hon. Lieutenant-Colonel J. E. R. Campbell.

Major G. D'. E. H. Fullerton.

Captains and Hon. Majors A. Kelso and E. W. Dawes.

Captains J. B. Ludford-Astley, A. E. Williams, G. I. Phillips, M. J. de Bathe. Lieutenants C. Crabbe, R. J.Collins, C. B. O. Mitford, T.A. Smallwood, J. E. N.Heseltine, C. A. Madge.

2nd Lieutenants C. F. P. Hamilton, G. H. Hodgson, L. G. Langmore, C. E. Scott.

Captain and Adjutant F. G. F. Browne.

Lieutenant and Quartermaster W. Hall.

Captain H. E. du C. Norris, 5th Battalion Royal Warwickshire Regiment, was attached to the Battalion for training.

On June 28th the Battalion was inspected by Major-General L. V. Swaine, C.B., C.M.G., Commanding the North-Western District.

On July 18th the Battalion was inspected by Major-General T. Kelly-Kenny, C.B., Inspector General of Auxiliary Forces.

On July 19th the Battalion was inspected in Marching Order and on 20th in Review Order by Colonel E. Nesbitt, Commanding 6th Regimental District.

The strength at inspection was as follows: -

Lieut. Colonel.	Major.	Captains.	Sub- alterns.	Staff.	Sergeant Major.	Sergeants.	Corporals.	Drum'rs.	Privates.	Total all Ranks.
1	1	6	10	2	1	27	23	8	581	660

During this training, as an inducement for men to enlist into the Regular Army and join the Territorial Battalion, the experiment was tried of sending a draft direct to the 2nd Battalion Royal Warwickshire Regiment at Colchester instead of sending the men as they enlisted to the Depôt at Warwick.

Lieutenant-Colonel M. Quayle Jones, C.B., Commanding the 2nd Battalion Royal Warwickshire Regiment, came down and personally addressed the Battalion with a very satisfactory result, as no less than 44 joined the Regular Army and were sent to Colchester on July 21st under command of 2nd Lieutenant G. H. Hodgson.

During the training the Battalion proceeded by rail to Monmouth and took part in a tactical day with the Royal Monmouthshire Engineer Militia.

The sequence of affairs from the Jameson raid on Johannesburg down to the Summer of 1899, is too much a matter of history to be recorded here, but it is sufficient to state that about September, 1899, diplomatic relations between the two Boer Republics in South Africa (viz.: The Transvaal and the Orange Free State) and the British Government became so strained as to lead to an impossible Ultimatum being sent by them on 11th October, 1899, which not being accepted by Lord Salisbury's ministry, hostilities at once commenced and the burghers of the two aforesaid Republics invaded British territory in the Colony of Natal, and a few days later on the Western frontier of the Free State into Griqualand and Cape Colony.

The towns of Ladysmith and Kimberley were both invested and by the first week of November were cut off from all communication with the outer world.

These disasters necessitated the despatch of a large army from England to South Africa, which was done during the months of October and November, and it was decided by the Government to replace the Regiments gone abroad by calling up certain Militia Battalions.

Amongst those selected was the 6th Battalion Royal Warwickshire, who were called up early in December to take over the place vacated by the 2nd Royal Warwickshire at Colchester, they having gone to South Africa a few weeks previously.

The Battalion assembled at Warwick according to orders on 14th December, 1899, a bitterly cold day, with several inches of snow on the ground. From War Office instructions not more than 750 of all ranks were to assemble, and this necessitated about 300 men being left at their homes.

The reason for not calling up the whole Battalion was the lack of barrack accommodation at Colchester, whither the Battalion had to proceed.

The strength of the Battalion at the time of Embodiment was as follows:—

	•									
Licut. Colonel.	Majors.	Captains.	Sub- alterns.	Staff	Sergeant Major.	Sergeants.	Corporals.	Drum'rs.	Privates.	Total all Ranks.
1	2	8	9	2	1	32	27	6	985	1073

The list of Officers on embodiment was as follows:—

Colonel H. McCalmont, M.P., Commanding
Lieut.-Colonel J. E. R. Campbell
Major G. D'. E. H. Fullerton
Captain and Hon. Major A. Kelso
Captain and Hon. Major E. W. Dawes
Captain J. B. Ludford-Astley
Captain C. H. L. Beatty
Captain W. H. Davenport
(A.D.C. to Governor of Cape Colony).
Captain A. E. Williams

Captain G. I. Phillips
Captain M. J. de Bathe (absent
on leave in South Africa).
Lieut. J. E. N. Heseltine
Lieut. C. A. Madge
Lieut. C. F. P. Hamilton
Lieut. G. H. Hodgson
Lieut. C. E. Scott (attached to
Army Service Corps).
2nd Lieut. W. G. Renton
2nd Lieut. H. Norris
2nd Lieut. G. H. U. Lacon
2nd Lieut. J. C. Lancaster

### STAFF.

Captain and Adjutant F. G. F. Browne. Lieutenant and Quartermaster W. Hall.

#### ATTACHED.

Captain H. E. du C. Norris, 5th Battalion.

The above, with the exceptions quoted against their names, all assembled and proceeded with the Battalion to Colchester where it arrived late on the evening of December 14th, 1899.

The Battalion was quartered in the new brick buildings at Colchester called the Meeanee Barracks, and they occupied the Mess lately vacated by the 2nd Battalion Royal Warwickshire Regiment, who had kindly lent the furniture of the Mess as it was in the rooms.

There were in addition to the Battalion, which arrived about 780 strong, 533 details of the 2nd Battalion left behind under Capt. W. Leader, 2nd Battalion, and Lieuts. Besant and Caillard; these were all attached to the 6th Battalion, also Captain Clyne, 5th Battalion, and 2nd Lieuts. Haddon and Mackenzie, both 5th Battalion.

Christmas Day passed over in uneventful fashion, the Garrison being commanded by Major-General H. R. Abadie, the other Regiments being the 3rd Border Regiment (Cumberland Militia) and the 4th Royal Irish Fusiliers (Cavan Militia), who were both in huts, in addition to some Cavalry details of 7th Hussars and 12th Lancers in the Cavalry Barracks, and a siege train with 2 Batteries of Field Artillery in the Artillery lines.

It was in Christmas week, however, that a letter was received from the War Office addressed to nine Battalions of Militia, selected, of which the 6th Battalion Royal Warwickshire was one, in which the Officers Commanding those Battalions were ordered to ascertain whether the men under them would volunteer to serve abroad, it being expressly stipulated that the Regiments should be prepared to go wherever they might be sent.

A parade was ordered and the War Office letter having been read, the men were called upon to volunteer which they did almost unanimously.

At that time it was generally supposed that the Battalion would be sent to Malta, where the 3rd Battalion (Line) were stationed, to relieve them and allow them to be sent on to South Africa.

On Friday, December 29th, a telegram was received stating the services of the Battalion had been accepted and that they would sail for South Africa in a fortnight's time, the exact date fixed being January 13th.

The following extract from the London Gazette, dated 5th January, 1900, was published for information:—

- "The undermentioned Battalions of Militia Infantry having been embodied and having volunteered for service out of the United Kingdom, viz.:—
- 4th Battalion the King's Own (Royal Lancaster Regiment)
- 6th Battalion the Royal Warwickshire Regiment
- 6th Battalion the Lancashire Fusiliers
- 3rd Battalion the Prince of Wales' Volunteers (South Lancashire Regiment
- 4th Battalion the Sherwood Foresters (Derbyshire Regiment)
- 3rd Battalion the Loyal North Lancashire Regiment
- 3rd Battalion the Durham Light Infantry
- 4th Battalion Princess Louise's Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders
- 9th Battalion the King's Royal Rifle Corps

Her Majesty has been graciously pleased to accept the voluntary offer of these Battalions to serve abroad."

1900. Preparations were at once commenced to get ready for South Africa. On Saturday, December 30th, the official order was received, and, in that, the day was altered from January 13th to January 11th thus leaving only 11 days for preparation of which two were Sundays and one New Year's Day.

The Battalion was paraded by the Chief Staff Officer, and any man who was unwilling to go was allowed to fall out, of these there were about 80 altogether.

It was now found how unfortunate it was that the lack of accommodation permitted only 750 men of the Battalion to have been originally called up for embodiment. All the balance of the men had to be communicated with, those under 18 years not being eligible, and they were ordered to join at Warwick and be conducted to Colchester which was done, the last party only arriving on the 10th January, at ten o'clock at night, the parade for marching off being at 4 a.m. the next morning.

The General inspected the Battalion before embarkation on January 10th, and expressed himself very pleased with its appearance. There had been many medical rejections. Many men thus rejected joined the Battalion later.

All these men—viz., those unwilling and those medically unfit were sent back to Warwick, and thence to their homes. They left the day before the Battalion sailed, the small balance being sent the day after.

A certain proportion of old soldiers, men whose time in the Reserve had expired, were enlisted, and joined the Battalion direct. These men furnished a good class from which Non-Commissioned Officers could be made, and were useful in providing a stiffening in the ranks in which were a very large proportion of young soldiers, but the latter were without doubt the better behaved men, and earned great credit on all sides for their good conduct and sobriety before departure.

The Battalion left Colchester in two special trains on January 11th, and proceeded directly to Southampton, where they embarked on board the hired transport "Umbria," a fine ship, belonging to the Cunard Company, usually employed in the mail service between Liverpool and New York.

The departure from Colchester was most orderly, the following letter from Major-General Abadie to the Officer Commanding expresses the views of the authorities on the conduct of the men.

SCARLETT'S, COLCHESTER,

18th January, 1900.

My Dear McCalmont,

I must send you a line to tell you how pleased I was to get Colonel Crofton's report of the way your Battalion entrained.

The men behaved throughout your stay at Colchester as well as the best battalion could have done, and the quiet soldierlike way they left Colchester is a great credit to you and your Battalion. I

thank you most sincerely for the way you supported me throughout, I was very sorry to lose you from my command. I hope when the opportunity is given you that we shall see your Warwickshire lads come to the front and help to add new names on your colours.

Please tell the men from me how pleased I was with them and how well they were appreciated here.

Your 5th Battalion comes in next week.

Good luck to you and the 6th Battalion.

Yours sincerely,

(Signed) H. R. ABADIE.

The Regiment arrived at Southampton about noon and embarked at once. Lieut.-General Sir Baker-Russell and Staff from Portsmouth being present to witness the departure of the ship. The exact strength of the Battalion leaving England was as follows: Officers, 26; Warrant Officer, 1; Sergeants, 42; Corporals, 34; Privates, 606; total, 709. Of these 1 officer and 10 joined later, having been sent to Hythe for a course of instruction in machine gun.

There were also 11 stowaways belonging to 2nd Battalion.

The following Officers belonging to the Battalion on its departure for South Africa, and sailed with it (except where noted):—

Colonel H. L. B. McCalmont, M.P., Commanding Lieut.-Colonel J. E. R. Campbell Major G. D'. E. H. Fullerton Captain & Hon. Major A. Kelso Captain & Hon. Major E. W. Dawes Captain J. B. Ludford-Astley Captain C. H. L. Beatty Captain W. H. Davenport (A.D.C. to Governor, Cape Colony) Captain A. E. Williams Captain G. I. Phillips. Captain M. J. de Bathe (on leave in South Africa)

Captain H. E. du C. Norris, 5th Bat. (attached vice Davenport) Lieut. J. E. N. Heseltine Lieut. C. A. Madge Lieut. C. F. P. Hamilton Lieut. G. H. Hodgson Lieut. C. E. Scott (left with Army Service Corps) 2nd Lieut. W. G. F. Renton 2nd Lieut. H. Norris 2nd Lieut. G. H. U. Lacon 2nd Lieut. J. C. Lancaster 2nd Lieut. H. E. Redman 2nd Lieut. R. T. Tudor-Owen 2nd Lieut. C. M. Yates 2nd Lieut. R. C. A. McCalmont 2nd Lieut. J. M. Corse-Scott

### STAFF.

Captain and Adjutant F. G. F. Browne. Lieutenant and Quartermaster W. Hall.

Civil Surgeon attached Archibald Young.

It is, perhaps, worthy of mention that 2nd Lieutenant Corse-Scott, who was only appointed to the Battalion on the day before sailing, received his orders at 6 p.m. on January 10th, while in Scotland, near Hawick, and embarked the next day at 2 p.m. at Southampton.

The other troops on board the "Umbria" were the 4th Battalion the Sherwood Foresters (Derbyshire Regiment), and the 3rd Battalion the Durham Light Infantry, both Militia Battalions, and about the same numerical strength as the 6th Battalion Royal Warwickshire.

Those were the first Militia Battalions to leave England, the 4th Battalion the King's Own Royal Lancaster Regiment embarking at the same time, on board the hired transport "Nile," which however called at Queenstown to pick up the 9th Battalion K.R.R. or North Cork Militia.

The embarkation was very quiet and steady, although a great concourse of people were assembled to see the departure of the ship. The Battalion embarked in marching order—red. A khaki cover with flap behind had been provided for the Home Service pattern helmets, from which the fittings had been removed. One suit of khaki per man was taken out with the Battalion in bulk, and issued shortly after disembarkation.

Colonel R. B. Wilson, 3rd Durham L.I. was in command of the troops, Colonel H. McCalmont being second, and Lieut.-Colonel Pearse, 4th Derby Regiment, third.

The "Umbria" sailed from the outer quay of the Empress Dock, Southampton, at about 4 p.m. on January 11th, 1900. She had on board the three Regiments above named, who totalled 2,100 men, about 375 crew, which with a few odd details brought the total number on board up to 2,500 persons. Captain Thomas Dutton was in charge of the ship.

Passed the Needles at 5.15 p.m and went on down Channel, a clear calm winter night.

January 12th. At noon, distance run, 365 miles. Moderate breeze all day and slight sea.

January 13th. At noon, distance run, 433 miles. Wind dropped and only slight swell.

January 14th. At noon, distance run, 446 miles. Held usual Sunday Church Parade. Wind N.E., moderate.

January 15th. Arrived at 4 a.m., at Island Grand Canary and abreast of port of Las Palmas at 5 a.m., distance 309 miles since noon 14th. Anchored in Roadstead, strong North-easterly swell making it difficult to embark in small boats and impossible to coal. Wind freshened during night causing a nasty sea alongside the transport.

January 16th. Received orders from the Senior Naval Officer H.M.S. "Furious" to leave Las Palmas and proceed to St. Vincent to coal there; sailed at 12.35 p.m., and cleared Island at 2.25 p.m., strong North-easterly wind and following sea, speed 18½ knots.

January 17th. At noon, distance run 421 miles, strong following wind N.E. and moderate sea.

January 18th. Arrived at St. Vincent, Cape Verde Islands, at noon, having run 436 miles; anchored in bay and commenced coaling at 2 p.m. The natives here work hard, and are able to put in 100 tons an hour. Coaling all night.

January 19th. Finished coaling at 2 p.m., and sailed from St. Vincent at 2.30 p.m. As we went out of the bay the hired transport "Nile," with the 4th Battalion the King's Own Royal Lancaster Regiment and the 9th Battalion King's Royal Rifles arrived and remained to coal. Steered southerly course, wind easterly and fresh, speed about 16.

January 20th. At noon, distance run 336 miles; wind easterly, moderate, weather warmer.

January 21st. At noon, distance run 403 miles; moderate wind, fine weather. A man of the 4th Derby Regiment died and was buried at noon.

January 22nd. At noon, distance run 414 miles. Crossed the Equator about 7 p.m. The first Militia Regiments that have ever proceeded on service south of the line. Light breeze, cool.

January 23rd. At noon, distance rue 394 miles. No. 2307, Private Brennan, died about 11 in the forenoon of pneumonia, he was buried at 5 p.m., Colonel McCalmont reading the service. This man had formerly been a sergeant, and was one of the oldest soldiers in the regiment.

January 24th. At noon distance run 395 miles. Weather fine, but a strong current against ship.

January 25th. At noon, distance run 420 miles. Revolutions increased, weather quite cold.

January 26th. At noon, distance run 409 miles. Still meeting northerly current, wind cold.

January 27th. At noon, distance run 407 miles. Slight head sea. Another man 4th Derby Regiment died.

January 28th. At noon, distance run 405 miles. Church service as before. 374 miles remain to Table Bay.

January 29th. Sighted land early in the morning. Arrived Table Bay (374 miles) at 9.30 a.m. Anchored in the Bay, Embarkation Officer came off with orders for 6th Warwickshire to land.

The "Umbria" lay at anchor in Table Bay until about 5 p.m., when she got under weigh and came into Dock. "H" Company was ordered to furnish guard and sentries round the vessel, so they paraded in guard order (red serges) and were landed at about 6.30 p.m. Colonel McCalmont was the first to land, followed by Major Kelso and his Company, "H," the first Militiamen to land on duty in South Africa.

Baggage was discharged all night, the other two Regiments being under orders to proceed in the same ship to East London and Port Elizabeth.

The baggage being all landed during the night, the Battalion paraded after the men's dinners on Tuesday, January 30th, 1900, and disembarked from the troopship "Umbria."

They marched directly to Green Point Common, about 1½ miles from Cape Town on a peninsula running into the sea by Moville Point, and pitched tents on the Common there, alongside a mixed battalion of convalescent details from Regiments at the front.

The Regiment settled down very comfortable into their camp on Green Point Common, which, however, at this time of year is very subject to sand storms, being swept by a violent south-easterly wind which lasts sometimes for two or three days, and the indication of which is a heavy white cloud rolling up and falling over the top of Table Mountain. This wind is sometimes termed the "Cape Doctor," as, although unpleasant in its force and the sand it brings, it is supposed to blow away all malarial germs.

The first day, viz., 31st January, 1900, two detachments were sent away from Headquarters, viz., "E" Company under Captain and Hon. Major E. W. Dawes to Wynberg, where Major Dawes became Commandant, Wynberg being the situation of large base hospitals full of sick and wounded, and "F" Company, made up to 100 men under Captain C. H. L. Beatty, to Simonstown, there to guard about 700 Boer prisoners who had been brought from Natal and landed there.

The Battalion had alongside them the C.I.V. (City Imperial Volunteers), a specially organised force of three branches, viz., Artillery, Mounted Infantry, and Infantry, raised in the City of London from various Volunteer Regiments and embodied under special conditions for active service. These were visited by crowds of people, and received immense praise for their self sacrifice and

devotion, although no one seemed to realise that the Militia who were not made so much of, had given up just as much in volunteering to come out, and had shown just as much self sacrifice and devotion.

The camp was visited twice during the first week in February by Field Marshal Lord Roberts, V.C., Commander-in-Chief, with his Chief of Staff, Lord Kitchener.

They came through the Militia lines as well as those of the C.I.V. aforenamed. Lord Roberts and Headquarter Staff all proceeded to the front for expected advance of the Army, leaving Cape Town on February 6th.

The stay of the Battalion was uneventful but entailed a tremendous amount of work on the men, who had almost all the Guards of the Garrison to furnish, and as some of these, such as Tambour Kloof, are situated a long way out the duties were severely felt both by N.C. Officers and men.

In addition to the guards and picquets there were innumerable fatigues to unload all kinds of Government stores, forage and ammunition, all of which was continually arriving at the Docks.

The weather was very hot, but the men had only one suit of serge khaki, used for fatigues, and one suit of red serge with ordinary blue trowsers, in which they mounted all their duties.

It was impossible to prevent the men disposing of their Regimental cap badges, collar badges, and numerals to the townsfolk. There was a tremendous demand for these badges, and fancy prices were given by people making collections, etc.

The surroundings, also, of the Camp were prejudicial to good order and discipline, the Provisional Battalion of details in the next Lines was composed of men of over 40 different Regiments with very few officers and those only young ones left behind in charge of Base Details, there were no limits to the Camp and no walls or enclosures to prevent the men going in and out when they pleased. Drink of the worst kind was most plentiful in all the low slums of CapeTown, a peculiarly powerful kind of sherry called Cape smoke, most intoxicating in its effects, was no more than sevenpence.

Notwithstanding these drawbacks the behaviour of the Battalion, as a whole, was uniformly good and the Regiment obtained great credit for the way in which it conducted itself in spite of the temptations surrounding it. This was more creditable when the fact that there were no Provost Cells available (owing to so many prisoners being under sentence) is taken into consideration, powers of punishment being much limited.

Orders having been received from the Commander-in-Chief that all Militia Battalions were to be exercised in musketry, Captain H. E. du C. Norris, of the 5th Battalion Royal Warwickshire Regiment.

was appointed Musketry Instructor, and all the recruits of the Battalion, about 200 in number, were put through a proper recruits' course of musketry on the range at Wynberg, proceeding there by two Companies, about 50 men, at a time. The absence of these parties from Headquarters considerably increased the work of the men remaining behind. The first party began drill on February 14th and proceeded to Wynberg on 19th, and the courses were carried out continuously in succession until all the recruits were exercised.

Nine recruit officers were exercised with these parties.

The relief of Kimberley, which had been beseiged by the Boers since November, 1899, was announced on February 16th, and there were considerable rejoicings throughout Cape Town in consequence, although to observant eyes there were many Boer sympathisers among the population.

It was considered by the authorities a good opportunity to shew the inhabitants of Cape Town the strength of the available force in garrison, and so in honour of the relief of Kimberley a general parade took place, and the available troops were marched in column of route through the principal streets. Over 4,000 men took part, and the 6th Battalion Royal Warwickshire Regiment was the only Militia Battalion on parade, which took place on February 20th, notwithstanding a blinding south-east sand storm which was raging.

Colonel R. B. Mainwaring, C.M.G., was Brigadier in charge of the Infantry, and he wrote as follows to the Colonel of the 6th Battalion Royal Warwickshire Regiment:

" CAPE TOWN.

" 20th February, 1900.

" Dear McCalmont,

"I must really congratulate you on the appearance of your Battalion. I thought the men particularly smart, and the marching excellent.

"Yours sincerely,

" (Signed) R. B. Mainwaring," Colonel Commanding Troops Green Point Camp.

Troops continued to arrive at Capetown throughout the months of February and March, especially an enormous number of Yeomanry who were being sent out to assist the Cavalry, in which branch the Army was deficient, the loss of horseflesh also was enormous.

A large camp of Cavalry details was formed at Maitland, where the Yeomanry were quartered on disembarking.

The C.I.V., who had gradually arrived, were all drafted away by the end of February from Green Point.

On February 27th (the anniversary of the disaster to the British Force at Majuba Hill in 1881) Lord Roberts obtained a crushing victory over the Boer General Cronje, having surrounded him and all his army in the river bed near Paardeberg in the Orange Free State.

Cronje, who had held out for three or four days in the hope of relief, surrendered unconditionally and he and his army (upwards of 3,500) were taken prisoner.

This success caused further rejoicings in Cape Town, and it remained to hear the relief of Ladysmith which had been besieged since November, 1899. This news, long expected and anxiously awaited, was received on March 1st, 1900.

Captain M. J. de Bathe, 6th Battalion Royal Warwickshire Regiment, who had been away in South Africa on private affairs, was amongst those liberated, he had been unavoidably shut up in Ladysmith when the siege commenced and had taken temporary employment with the Imperial Light Horse with whom he served through all the siege and was present at all the principal fights. He suffered no illness and subsequently rejoined the Battalion on 21st March, 1900, at Simonstown.

On March 2nd, 1900, the Boer General Cronje with his wife and one or two personal attendants, staff, etc., arrived a prisoner of war in Cape Town, he was met at the station by a prisoners' guard of 100 men furnished by 6th Battalion Royal Warwickshire Regiment under Major Kelso, and was taken down to Simonstown there to embark on one of Her Majesty's ships.

After the arrival of Cronje and his disposal on board H.M.S. "Doris," at Simonstown, the rest of his army began to arrive in batches of 50 and 100 and necessitated numerous guards, they were embarked in transports with escorts of 3 officers and 100 men in each ship and taken round to Simon's Bay.

Captain J. B. Ludford-Astley with 2 officers and 100 other ranks 6th Royal Warwickshire Regiment embarked on "City of Cambridge" steam ship and Lieut.-Colonel Campbell went as Commandant on March 5th, 1900.

The same day another Militia Battalien, 3rd King's Own Royal Lancaster Regiment arrived, and were encamped on Green Point Common. On March 6th notification was received that the Battalien was to be ready to move to Simon's Town, and definite orders were received on March 9th. The Wynberg Detachment was to remain, and the Battalien to move to Simon's Town when transport was available.

During the stay of the Battalion at Capetown, Lieutenant J. E. N. Heseltine, who had been gazetted to the King's Royal Rifle Corps, left to join his Regiment in Natal, being struck off the strength from 9th February, 1900.

The Battalion moved by companies by train to Simon's Town. The Headquarters moved last of all, on Monday, March 12th, and went into camp on the south side of the enclosure for Boer prisoners, just below the Queen's Battery, formerly Cemetery Battery.

Colonel H. McCalmont, M.P., commanding the Battalion, was appointed Commandant of Simon's Town from March 12th, 1900, which he continued to be until the Battalion finally went away.

The duties of the Battalion at Simon's Town were very heavy, there being numerous guards in outlying forts to be found, and some of these forts were nearly four miles distant, necessitating a long march on the part of the guard before and after relief, and this in the hot weather made the duties especially irksome.

The following is a list of the daily guards and duties furnished by the Battalion at Simon's Town:

Oi	fficers	. Se	rgean	ts. C	orpor	als. 1	Dium	rs.	Privates
Boer Prisoners Guard	1		1		<b>2</b>		1		24
Inlying Picquet	1		1		<b>2</b>		0		12
Camp Guard	0		1		1	• • •	1		9
Upper North Battery	0		1		1		0		6
Lower North Battery	0		0	• • •	1		0		3
Queen's Battery	0		0	.:.	1		0		3
Noah's Ark Battery									
Main Barracks									
Palace Barracks (Hospital)	0	• • •	1		1		0		9
Daily Total	<b>2</b>		5		11		2		72

In addition to the above there were patrols for the town to be furnished and various fatigue parties and duties in connection with the forts, the Battalion were in consequence very hard worked, especially when it is to be remembered "E" Company, of about 80 men, was at Wynberg with a musketry party of about 40 recruits being exercised there, and 100 men with 4 officers on board "City of Cambridge" transport in charge of prisoners.

The strength of Boer prisoners in the camp below Queen's Battery on the arrival of the Battalion was about 840. These were increased on March 19th by 100 more taken at Paardeberg. In addition to the prisoners on shore, there were in transports in the Bay about 3,700 prisoners principally those taken with Cronje at Paardeberg on February 27th.

The Palace Barracks, with accommodation for about 100 men, were converted into a hospital for Boer sick. These were unfortunately most numerous, and were constantly being landed from the transports suffering from a most acute form of enteric fever from which they died rapidly.

The daily deaths of Boer prisoners at this time were on an average 5 per diem. On one day no less than 7 died. All these men were buried by the Battalion in the most respectful way possible, a coffin was provided for each man and they were taken to the Cemetery on carts covered with the Boer flag, and accompanied by a firing party and the fifes and drums of the Battalion.

The musketry of the recruits was completed at the end of March, and they all rejoined Headquarters with Captain Norris, who had been acting as Musketry Instructor, but this did not in any way relieve the strain caused by the duties on the men, as, on 30th March, 100 men under Captain Williams and two officers were embarked on the transport "Mongolian" as a guard to the Boer prisoners on board.

Owing to the courtesy of the Naval Authorities, the Rifle Range at the top of the hill behind Simon's Town was placed at the disposal of the Battalion, and on April 3rd a course of field firing was commenced by companies, every man being exercised, and expending all the annual allowance of ball cartridge in the practices, which consisted of an attack on a position mounted with guns, etc., and with a flank attack development. All the companies at Headquarters were exercised, and "E" Company, which was still at Wynberg, was exercised on the range there under its own officers.

On Tuesday, April 3rd, 300 Boer prisoners were sent to the Racecourse track in Capetown, and 300 more were embarked in the transport "Milwaukee," which sailed the same evening for St. Helena, escorted by H.M.S. "Niobe."

The next day the new camp for prisoners of war at Bellvue Point, about one mile beyond Noah's Ark Battery, was opened, and 750 prisoners were landed from the transport "Manila," and encamped there; on April 5th 750 more prisoners were landed from the transport "City of Cambridge," and also taken to the Bellevue Camp, which was a most difficult place to guard properly; the water supply was also very defective.

That same night, in a strong south-easterly gale, many of the tents were blown down. Owing to the lights at the old camp going out about 12.30 a.m., the Battalion fell in at once on the alarm being sounded, and remained under arms until the electric light was repaired and placed in working order.

It is curious to note that following on the alarm of the previous night, when the battalion was proved to be on the alert, at about 6.45 p.m., the next day the alarm was again given, and it was discovered that prisoners, to the number of about twenty-one, had escaped from the enclosure (the old camp below Queen's Battery) and had succeeded in getting away.

The Battalion again fell in and picquets and patrols were sent out, the night being very dark, with the result that ten of the escaped prisioners were recaptured and brought back to the guardroom where they were examined by the Commandant and then sent to the guard room at the Main and Palace Barracks for better security.

One prisoner was bayonetted as he was hiding in the bushes, and was moved into hospital where he subsequently recovered, and one unfortunate Kaffir who, when challenged, ran away to the sea shore without replying, was shot by a man of the picquet and died next morning.

Parties were sent out at once by the Commandant (Colonel H. McCalmont, M.P.), and the country was searched as well as possible, with the result that three more escaped prisoners were recaptured by Captain Beatty before morning; another one was apprehended by the Police at Wynberg, and some time after one man was taken on board a ship, making a total recovered of 15 out of 21 who broke out.

It was a most fortunate circumstance that 600 prisoners had been removed from the enclosure on the 3rd April, otherwise many more might have attempted to make their escape, which was done by cutting the wires of the enclosure near the bridge over the alley leading to the bathing place, and in the shadow of that bridge. The time selected was just after "Retreat," when it began to be very dark and before the extra re-enforcing sentries had been posted. The prisoners escaped one by one and hid themselves in the bushes, creeping down to the sea shore and thence making their way to the hills. And here it is worthy to note that the difficulties of the guarding of the prisoners were increased a hundredfold by the number of Boer sympathizers who lived in the neighbourhood and who were always visiting Simon's Town on the chance of being able to assist the prisoners in one way or another.

The prisoners were allowed to receive all kinds of presents, and practically anything, with the exception of arms and liquor, could be passed into the prisoners' enclosure.

The duties of the officer on guard were to examine everything going in, and this was done to the best of his ability, but stories were rife as to wire cutters and such like tools being passed in concealed

in water melons, and it is certain the many attempts to tunnel out. which luckily were all frustrated, were certainly facilitated by the number of candles introduced in presents and by the use of the wood of the boxes containing presents to shore up the insides of the works. The most daring attempt to tunnel out was the one which was discovered on Wednesday, March 7th, when Captain Beatty, who was then in command of the Detachment before the Battalion came down, after being on the watch for two nights, discovered a tunnel no less than 30 yards long leading from a tent inside the lawn tennis ground in the enclosure out under the ground into the bushes on the S.E. side, which was intended to have been used the very next day, and by which the prisoner Schiel, with his friends, was to have escaped, this being practically proved by the fact that the said Schiel, who was a most determined man, had prepared for his departure by sending away all his clothes and personal belongings on the previous day, retaining only the clothes he was wearing, and after the discovery of the tunnel he had to send to his friends ignominiously to have his wearing apparel, etc., returned to him. subsequently moved on board ship and went to St. Helena with the first party sent there.

On April 9th the last batch of prisoners was landed from the transport "Mongolian" in the bay, and there were then nearly 3,000 in the Bellevue Camp and about 350 in the old camp. These 350 were taken to Cape Town on April 10th, and embarked for St. Helena, leaving the old camp empty.

The first lot of prisoners, who had been at Simon's Town practically since their capture in October, had been for the whole period of their detention in a very good state of health and remained so until their departure for St. Heiena, but a very different state of affairs existed when the prisoners captured by Lord Roberts at Paardeberg came down country.

These men were absolutely full of typhoid fever and this of a most virulent type, and as before mentioned it was found necessary to convert the Palace Barracks into a hospital for their accommodation. Dr. Gerard Carré was in charge and worked heroically to minimise the ravages of the disease which, however, were considerable.

As soon as the whole of the remaining prisoners were in occupation of the new camp at Bellevue it was discovered that the water supply provided there was totally inadequate. The municipal authorities of Simon's Town finding that their store of water was becoming alarmingly low, gave notice that they would have to limit the amount supplied through their pipes, and this began to give much trouble as it affected not only the prisoners but also the troops in the camps alongside. These troops had been augmented by a

company of Royal Garrison Artillery who took over all the guards in the various forts from the Battalion, and thus eased the strain on the men, which was becoming very severe. The hot weather and drought continued all through the month of April until on the 20th the municipality gave notice they could supply no more water, it became necessary to dispose of the prisoners, and at two hours notice on the 21st "H" Company, under Major Kelso, escorted 350 into Cape Town.

On Sunday 22nd, 350 more prisoners were despatched at 10.30 a.m., and a similar lot at 2.30 p.m., each with a Company as an escort, the Companies remaining in Cape Town on arrival.

On Monday morning, 23rd April, 406 more prisoners were taken straight to the docks and embarked in "Bavarian" transport for St. Helena, one Company going as escort as far as the docks.

The same afternoon 302 more were sent off under an escort sent by Royal Lancaster Regiment to the Bicycle Track at Cape Town, which left only about 300 remaining.

These were taken next morning to the docks for embarkation for St. Helena, and with the exception of the patients in hospital there were no Boer prisoners left in Simon's Town.

The remainder of the Regiment, two Companies, with Headquarters proceeded the same afternoon to Cape Town (24-4-00) and encamped on Green Point Common with the Companies already there.

The second period spent by the Battalion in camp at Cape Town was very uneventful. The steady flow of troops from England, landing at Cape Town and proceeding up country continued, while the duties of the Regiments quartered at Green Point were increased by the necessity of having to guard the Boer prisoners who were confined there in a large camp arranged inside the Bicycling Track alongside Green Point Common.

The troops now at Green Point consisted, in addition to the Base Details (composed of all Regiments), of the West Riding Militia and the 4th North Staffordshire Militia, with the Cape Garrison Artillery and the 6th Battalion Royal Warwickshire Militia.

These all took their turns at furnishing the guard over the Boer prisoners. This guard consisted of 3 officers and 60 men. On April 30th it was found by the 6th Battalion Royal Warwickshire Regiment and on the evening of that day, about 7 p.m., one of the prisoners was shot by a sentry under the following circumstances:—

The sentry No. 5484 Private J. Hoare, when on his post, observed a party of three or four prisoners at about 6.45 p.m., standing by and apparently tampering with the inner wire fence of the prisoners' enclosure; he cautioned them to desist, and they complied with the

exception of one man, Cronje by name, who continued in the same attitude as though about to get over the fence. The sentry cautioned him repeatedly and as the prisoner paid no attention he eventually fired and struck him with his first shot in the neck. The man fell and was removed to the hospital where he died the same night. An enquiry was subsequently held by the Civil authorities at which all the evidence was brought out, and the sentry was acquitted of any suspicion of manslaughter, having been killed by him in the execution of his duty.

This created a very healthy tone of confidence in the men of the Battalion whose nerves had been to a certain extent upset by the escape which had taken place as described on April 5th.

The sentry was promoted to be corporal.

On Wednesday, May 9th, "E" Company which had been at Wynberg since landing in January returned to Head Quarters, with the exception of Major E. W. Dawes who remained behind as Commandant, and the whole Battalion was together for the first time.

Various drills and routine work continued during the month of May, on May 18th a draft of 58 men arrived from England.

The relief of Mafeking was finally and officially announced on May 19th as having taken place, and a public holiday was held on May 21st.

The Queen's birthday was celebrated on May 25th by a great parade of all the troops in front of His Excellency, Sir Alfred Milner, the High Commissioner, who attended the march past on the grand parade after holding a public Levée in the morning.

The Battalion took part in the parade and marched past at the head of the Infantry Brigade immediately behind the detail company of the Brigade of Guards.

The following gives the details of Troops attending the Parade:—

QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY PARADE, 1900.

# ORDER OF MARCH.

STAFF OF THE BASE, CAPE TOWN.
OFFICER COMMANDING.

### CAVALRY.

CAVALRY BRIGADE STAFF.

Commanding. (Colonel Graham, Imperial Yeomanry.)
Depôt. (Cavalry and Australian Contingents by Brigade.)
Imperial Yeomanry.

Reserve Squadron, South African Irregular Mounted Corps.

Strathcona's Horse.

## ARTILLERY. ARTILLERY BRIGADE STAFF.

Commanding. (Colonel Western, C.R.A.) Excess Nos. R.H.A., R.F.A., and R.G.A.

· No. 5 Company, Eastern Division, Royal Garrison Artillery.

Cape Garrison Artillery.

### INFANTRY. INFANTRY BRIGADE STAFF.

Commanding. (Colonel H. Good, 6th Royal Fusiliers.)

Detachment Royal Engineers.
Detachment Brigade of Guards.

6th Battalion Royal Warwickshire Regiment.

4th Battalion North Staffordshire Regiment.

Depôt Battalion (by Divisions and Brigade).

Detachment Cape Town Highlanders.

Detachment Duke of Edinburgh's Own Volunteer Rifles.

Detachment Army Service Corps with two Wagons.

Detachment R.A.M.C. Corps with two Ambulances.

Detachment Cape Volunteer Medical Staff Corps with two Ambulances.

Detachment Army Ordnance Corps.

Detachment Army Pay Corps.

Detachment Army Post Office Corps.

Only four companies per Battalion were allowed, owing to the limited size of the ground.

Two companies, however, were absent, as on May 23rd "G" and "H" Companies left for Wellington, Cape Colony, and neighbourhood, they were distributed as follows:—

"G" Company under Captain Astley and Lieutenant Corse-Scott went to Lady Grey Bridge, where they remained encamped keeping watch over the railway line and bridge, the district being very hostile, and the railway line there passing through a very difficult country.

Half of "H" Company, under Major Kelso and Lieutenant R. McCalmont went to Wellington where Major Kelso was appointed Commandant, and the other half of the Company augmented to 60 men, under Lieutenant Hodgson and Second Lieutenant Tudor-Owen went to Hermon. All these men were employed in patrolling the railway line and watching the bridges and culverts. The Lady Grey Bridge Company were moved on the 31st May to The Paarl, in anticipation of difficulties arising owing to political meetings which, however, owing to the Military precautions taken, passed off

quite quietly. With the exception of this move these companies remained as originally stationed until they finally came away on July 10th, as follows:—

On June 21st Captain and Hon. Major Kelso was relieved at Wellington by Major Wedgwood of the 4th North Staffordshire Regiment, the detachments in Cape Colony being under orders to join the Battalion Head Quarters at Bloemfontein, and on July 10th they left, the company at Paarl joining with that at Wellington, and afterwards picking up the detachment at Hermon.

On arrival at De Aar the party was ordered to detrain and take up position in the defences as an attack by the Boers was anticipated. They remained there until July 16th when, things being quiet again, they left, reaching Bloemfontein on the 17th.

The rainy season now set in at Cape Town, commencing with a violent storm the same afternoon as the Queen's birthday parade. The corrugated iron huts were luckily finished this same week and the troops moved into occupation, the 6th Battalion Royal Warwickshire being allotted the third block of huts, or "C" lines. But they were not destined to remain there long, as on May 25th orders were received to be ready to proceed to Hopetown which is stationed on the Orange River, where the road to Kimberley crosses it, and on May 28th (Monday) the Headquarters and six remaining Companies marched out of camp at 2.45 p.m., and proceeded by the 4.45 p.m. train for the North, travelling in two trains which ran at about 30 minutes' interval throughout the journey.

The following were the only changes in the personnel of officers during the months of April and May:—

Captain C. H. L. Beatty proceeded to join the Mounted Infantry, April 8th, 1900.

Lieutenant C. A. Madge was sent to do duty with transport, April 17th, 1900.

Captain M. J. de Bathe sent to transport up country on April 30th, 1900.

Captain and Hon. Major E. W. Dawes remained at Wynberg as Commandant when his Company left, May 9th, 1900.

Second Lieutenant H. Norris was left behind at Green Point Campin charge of Base details when the Battalion went away, 28-5-00.

Second Lieutenant S. R. A. Hankey, who had been appointed to the Battalion on March 19th, 1900, never came out to join, but remained for duty at the Regimental Depôt at Warwick.

The strength of the Battalion (exclusive of the two Companies left at Wellington) which proceeded North on 28th May, 1900, was 15 officers, 495 other ranks, 6 horses, 33 mules, 10 natives, 1 Maxim gun, 4 S.A.A. carts, 2 water carts, 1 G.S. waggon.

The Battalion which left Cape Town at 4.45 p.m. on May 28th, arrived at Matjesfontein on the morning of the 29th, where a halt was made for breakfast; at Prince Alfred Road at 1 p.m., where another halt was made for dinner; and at Beaufort West about 6 p.m., where a halt was made for the evening meal. The following morning, viz., May 30th, De Aar Junction was reached at 7 a.m., where two hours were allowed for breakfast, and Orange River Station at 1.45 p.m., where the Regiment detrained, all baggage, animals, and carts were unloaded, and camp pitched close to the station, alongside the 6th Battalion Lancashire Fusiliers, who welcomed both officers and men with great hospitality.

On Thursday, May 31st, camp was struck, and baggage packed on hired waggons. The Battalion started at 12 noon.

One waggon fell into a shelter trench leaving Orange River which caused half an hour's delay, otherwise all went well and Hopetown was reached at about 4 p.m. Camp was pitched on high ground over the village, near the gaol, which would serve as a centre.

The six companies were ordered to remain at Hopetown, so the camp being pitched by the gaol on the hill, overlooking the town, it was decided to construct shelter trenches which were duly begun, but owing to lack of tools and the very hard ground progress was slow.

Hopetown itself is situated about 4 miles from the road bridge over the Orange River, which is the main road—and before the railway—the only road between Kimberley and the South, and is the entrance from Kimberley of the Cape Colony itself. This bridge had been blown up by our own Engineers and one span of it was completely wrecked and lay in the water. The buttresses, however, and piers were intact, and with proper materials the bridge could soon be repaired. The blowing up of this span had been most carefully done and reflected great credit on the Engineers responsible, as complete interruption to traffic was obtained with the least possible damage to the structure.

The news of the surrender of Johannesburg was received at Hopetown on June 2nd, 1900, and the reported surrender of Pretoria followed, which news was confirmed on June 6th. On Saturday, June 9th, telegrams were received ordering the Battalion to be ready to move to Bloemfontein at an early date.

On Sunday, June 10th, a company of 6th Lancashire Fusiliers from Orange River arrived to take over charge from the Battalion, much trouble was occasioned by having to find civilian waggons and get them to load up the baggage. On Monday, June 11th, the Battalion paraded at 1 p.m., and marched into Orange River Station arriving there at 4 p.m., where camp was pitched for the night. The 6th Lancashire again being very hospitable.

It was at Hopetown that the 1st Militia Company of Mounted Infantry was formed, under the following circumstances:—A detachment of Orpen's Horse had to give in their horses and equipment, having been disbanded, so permission was obtained for these to be taken over by the Battalion, and a Mounted Infantry Company under Major Fullerton was thus formed.

On Tuesday, June 12th, the trains which had been promised for 7 a.m. were not forthcoming, so all the available cattle trucks were taken and after much trouble were loaded up with horses, mules, ammunition, maxim gun, baggage, and men, the latter in open trucks, the officers in a cattle truck, and proceeded in two trains to De Aar and thence to Naauwpoort where considerable delay occurred.

Leaving Naauwpoort about 5 a.m., on June 13th, the Head-quarters in the second train, arrived at Norval's Pont at 10 a.m., where one of the locomotives broke down. At 1 p.m., the temporary railway bridge was crossed and the Battalion entered the Orange Free State which henceforth was to be known as the Orange River Colony. It reached Springfontein at 4.30 p.m., where it was bitterly cold owing to the elevation above the sea, and proceeding slowly, arrived at Bloemfontein about 1 a.m., June 14th, the men remaining in the trucks until daybreak when the Battalion detrained and unloaded to proceed to its new quarters.

When it was detrained and the baggage all loaded up, the Battalion marched from the station through the town of Bloemfontein across the Market Square up the hill past the Cemetery and out on to the plain to the South West of the town where the Rest Camp had been formed. Here a halt was made and certain picquets were ordered to be furnished as follows:—St. Andrew's Hill, 50 men under Captain Williams; St. George's Hill, Captain Phillips and 50 men; Kaffir Kraal, Lieutenant Hamilton and 50 men; and Sussex Hill, Captain Norris and 100 men. These went out at 2 p.m. The remainder of the Battalion found a suitable ground for a camp on a hill sloping North, about two miles South-West of the Old Fort, where the tents were pitched, which hill was henceforward known as The outposts were allowed to take their tents with Warwick Hill, them, but the sentries were to be in shelter trenches, and the whole detachment at each outpost had to stand to arms an hour before dawn and remain until daylight. The days at this season of the year were warm, but the nights were bitterly cold and the men suffered considerably in consequence.

The following was the distribution of the officers at the end of June, 1900:—

Colonel H. McCalmont, Commanding Battalion at Bloemfontein.

Lieutenant Colonel Campbell and Major Fullerton, alternately visiting outposts and Commanding Sectional Reserve, Bloemfontein.

Major A. Kelso, Commandant, Wellington, Cape Colony.

Major E. W. Dawes, Commandant, Wynberg, Cape Colony.

Captain Astley, Commanding Detachment, Paarl, Cape Colony.

Captain Beatty, A.D.C. to Brigadier-General Alderson, M.I. Brigade.

Captain Davenport, A.D.C. to his Excellency Sir A. Milner, Cape Town.

Captain Williams, Commanding Picquet, St. Andrew's Hill, Bloemfontein.

Captain Phillips, Commanding Picquet, St. George's Hill, Bloemfontein.

Captain Norris, Commanding Picquet, Sussex Hill, Bloemfontein.

Captain de Bathe, Attached Army Transport Service, Transvaal.

Lieutenant Madge, Attached Mounted Infantry Transport, Transvaal.

Lieutenant Hamilton, Commanding Picquet, Kaffir Kraal, Bloemfontein.

Lieutenant Hodgson, on Detachment, Hermon, Cape Colony.

Second Lieutenant Renton, Sussex Hill, Bloemfontein.

Second Lieutenant H. Norris, in charge of Base Details, Cape Town.

Second Lieutenant Lacon, Commanding Supporting Picquet, St. Patrick's Hill, Bloemfontein.

Second Lieutenant Lancaster, St. Andrew's Hill, Bloemfontein.

Second Lieutenant Redman, Sussex Hill, Bloemfontein.

Second Lieutenant Tudor-Owen, on Detachment, Hermon, Cape Colony.

Second Lieutenant Yates, Sussex Hill, Bloemfontein.

Second Lieutenant R. C. McCalmont, on Detachment, Wellington, Cape Colony.

Second Lieutenant Corse-Scott, on Detachment, Paarl, Cape Colony. Second Lieutenant Hankey, at Depôt, Warwick, England.

Second Lieutenant R. G. Beatty, on passage out.

Major and Adjutant F. G. F. Browne, Headquarters, Bloemfontein. Lieutenant and Quartermaster W. Hall, Headquarters, Bloemfontein. Civil Surgeon J. Blackwood, Attached Headquarters, Bloemfontein.

The outposts furnished at Bloemfontein in the above list were situated in a semi-circle commencing from Bloem Spruit on the East and going round to the South, past Sussex Hill, over the railway near St. Andrew's Hill, and so on to St. George's Hill which was in sight and touch of the outpost furnished by the next Section at Spitzkop.

The picquet in support of Sussex Hill was at the foot of a small kopje by the Kaffir Kraal, and the picquet in support of St. Andrew's and St. George's Hills was on the plain at the foot of the ridge

known as Semaphore or St. Patrick's Hill. There were in addition examining guards of 1 N.C.O. and 6 men on each of the roads leading East out of Bloemfontein, viz., Thabanchu Road, Wepener Road, and Lawton's Farm Road.

At the Headquarters of the Regiment on Warwick Hill there were only 1 Company, with a few details and the Regimental Staff, whose time was fully occupied in drawing the rations and dividing and delivering them to the outposts. Every drop of water used at each outpost had to be drawn there from Bloemfontein by mule carts, and kept in kettles for use by the men. Water for washing was unprocurable, and the outposts which had a dam near were lucky.

All the rations were distributed in a similar way. The waggons were drawn by mules and driven by Cape boys; there were 33 mules and 10 Cape Boys belonging to the Battalion, and others were sometimes obtainable from the stores.

The picquets were visited by a Field Officer once by day and once by night, the two Majors taking it alternately in turn to do this duty and to remain in Headquarter camp in command of the Sectional reserve.

Owing to the disaster to the 4th Derbyshire Regiment in the neighbourhood the enemy was very active and daring, and used to approach the outposts and snipe them at night, fortunately without casualty.

At the time of the arrival of the Battalion in Bloemfontein, the Headquarter Staff of the 6th Division were there, Lieut.-General Kelly-Kenny, Commanding the Orange River Colony, with Colonel F. Benson as A.A.G., Major Monro as D.A.A.G., and Major Davis as D.A.A.G. also. Captain Maurice was A.D.C., also in charge of Intelligence, and Surgeon Colonel Exham was P.M.O., with Colonel Buston as C.R.E.

In addition to the Staff there was a Military Governor who resided at Government House—Major General Pretyman, R.A., with Colonel Townsend, Military Secretary, and Lord Acheson as A D.C.

On Tuesday, July 17th, the two Companies of the Battalion which had been on detachment in the Cape Colony at Wellington, Hermon, and the Paarl, arrived up at Bloemfontein to rejoin Head-quarters, their strength being 6 officers (Major Kelso in command) and 178 men; they rejoined the Headquarter camp, and the next day "B" Company went to St. George's Hill, "A" Company remaining at St. Andrew's Hill, "C" Company moved to support on St. Patrick's Hill, and "E" Company came back into Headquarters, thus giving three Companies at Headquarters, viz., "E," "G," and "H," ("D" and "F" being divided between Sussex Hill and Kaffir Kraal).

On Friday, July 20th, orders were given to form another Mounted Infantry Company (the horses and equipment of the first one formed had been left at Orange River). Major Fullerton took charge as before, with Lieutenant Redman to assist him.

On July 27th Colonel Long, R.A., who was in charge of "C" Section of outposts, wished another outpost formed to the S.W. of Sussex Hill, accordingly "C" Company was established on Middle Hill.

On Monday, July 30th, news was received of Prinsloo's surrender with 5,000 men.

Brigadier-General Allen, now in charge of our Section, rode round it and seemed satisfied with dispositions.

The enemy were very active at this time (August) destroying the line in many places. Troops were accordingly moved up, including 3rd Durham L.I.

On Saturday, August 4th, a draft of 150 men joined the Battalion from England, which made up the strength of the Battalion in South Africa to 850 all told.

On August 6th "G" and "H" Companies took over the camp of the Royal Irish Rifles on the level ground between Sussex Hill and the Bloem Spruit behind the Supply stores.

The Battalion was distributed as follows:-

- "A" Company, Captain Williams, Lieutenant Lancaster, 79 other ranks; St. Andrew's Hill.
- "B" Company, Lieutenant Renton, Lieutenant Corse-Scott, 90 other ranks; St. George's Hill.
- "B" Company, Lieutenant Lacon, 74 other ranks; St. Patrick's Hill.
- "C" Company, Captain Phillips, Lieutenant Yates, 81 other ranks; Middle Hill.
- "D" Company, Captain Norris, Lieutenant Hodgson, 127 other ranks; Sussex Hill.
- "F" Company, Lieutenant Hamilton, 50 other ranks; Kaffir Kraal.
- "G" Company, Captain Ludford-Astley, Lieutenant R. G. Beatty, 90 other ranks; Bloem Spruit.
- "H" Company, Major Kelso, Lieutenant R. McCalmont, 94 other ranks; Bloem Spruit.
- Mounted Infantry, Lieutenant Redman, 25 other ranks; Warwick Hill.

Headquarter details as follows:—Warwick Hill: Colonel McCalmont, Lieutenant Colonel Campbell, Major Fullerton, Major and Adjutant Browne, Lieutenant and Quartermaster Hall, Surgeon Blackwood, Sergeant Major, Quartermaster Sergeant, Sergeant Instructor of Musketry, Orderly Room Sergeant, Paymaster Sergeant, Armourer Sergeant, Sergeant Drummer, Sergeant Master Tailor, Drummers, 2 Corporals, and 21 Privates. Transport: 1 Sergeant, 10 Privates. Machine Gun party: 1 Sergeant, 5 Privates. Pioneers: 1 Sergeant, 4 Privates. Signallers: 1 Sergeant, 2 Privates. Officers' Mess: 1 Corporal, 1 Private. Butcher 1, Storeman 1, Cooks 3, Orderlies 2, Servants 7, Grooms 7, Prisoners awaiting trial 2, Sick in Hospital 31.

Thus the whole Battalion, except the details above enumerated, were on outpost duty. It was at this time that the General (Major General W. C. Knox) ordered the Commanding Officer to relieve the outposts of the Battalion. No fresh troops were, however, available.

On August 10th Major General W. C. Knox, R.A., assumed command of the troops of the section in which the Battalion was part; in consequence of his arrival the outposts, on August 18th, were relieved by half "B" Company, proceeding to Thabanchu Road, so that "G" and "H" Companies might return to Headquarters; the balance of "F" Company were also brought in, the Headquarters now consisted of the whole of the left half Battalion.

On Saturday, August 25th, 1900, 2nd Lieutenants W. G. Renton and R. C. A. McCalmont, who had been transferred to the King's Dragoon Guards, and the Irish Guards respectively, left Bloemfontein and went home to join their Regiments.

On Sunday, August 26th, Major-General Knox went away, and Colonel C. Long, R.A., succeeded him in command of troops, while Colonel McCalmont became Officer in charge of "C" Section of outposts. On Tuesday, September 4th, Lieutenant-General A. Hunter took over charge of Division from Lieutenant-General Kelly-Kenny. His Staff consisted of Colonel Kincaid, R.E., A.A.G., and Lieutenant Abadie as A.D.C., the D.A.A.G's, viz.: Monro and K. Davie remained.

On September 10th, the Mounted Infantry Company, who had been waiting for horses all this time, were supplied with 52 Argentine ponies or cobs, seemingly very serviceable, a Cavalry Sergeant was sent also to instruct them. They had a mounted parade in one day and were examined in skirmishing, attack, etc., within one week of having received their horses. Colonel Long, who inspected them, was pleased to signify his approval.

On Tuesday, September 18th, Lieutenant H. Norris rejoined the Battalion from Cape Town, where he had been left in charge of base details, and on Friday, September 21st, Lieutenant Hodgson, who

had been appointed to the Line Battalions of the Royal Warwickshire Regiment left for England. Lieutenant Tudor-Owen had previously joined the Middlesex Regiment.

On September 30th, our Mounted Infantry took over the advanced post on Long Hill, Lieutenant Redman going in command.

On Tuesday, October 9th, Captain G. I. Phillips went to Pretoria to take up the appointment of Assistant Crown Prosecutor in the Transvaal.

On Tuesday, 16th, Captain Ludford-Astley went on the sick list and left the Battalion.

On Friday, October 19th, Captain de Bathe, who had rejoined from the transport service, left for home, having sent in his resignation.

On Tuesday, November 6th, the Mounted Infantry patrol from Long Hill, fell in with enemy's patrol and engaged them, being assisted by patrol from Spitz Kop, who lost two men killed, both of Robert's Horse, the 6th Warwickshire had no casualty.

On Saturday, November 10th, Major Fullerton left for Cape Town, having been invalided by P.M.O.

On Thursday, November 22nd, Lieutenant C. A. Madge rejoined the Battalion from transport service, and on Saturday, November 24th, Major E. W. Dawes came up from Cape Town, where he had been since the Battalion landed in January, and rejoined.

On Saturday, December 1st, Colonel Bethune, 16th Lancers, succeeded Colonel Long, R.A., as officer commanding troops, Bloemfontein. Lord Roberts at this time left for home, having handed over command to Lord Kitchener.

On Friday, December 21st, Colonel Long again resumed command of troops, Bloemfontein, vice Bethune.

The Battalion spent Christmas Day in camp and on outpost as previously situated. An allowance of one quart (per man) of beer was given free, this was divided over two days, the Commanding Officer also gave each man one pound of tobacco.

On Friday, December 28th, an Army Order from England was circulated that the Militia were to be informed that as soon as Infantry could be spared they would be sent home, and that no regulars could leave South Africa before the Militia. This order was much appreciated by all ranks.

The weather during the past six months at Bloemfontein was very trying, the temperature was hot and there were frequent thunderstorms. Every night there were vivid displays of lightning

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in every quarter of the horizon, but the most trying experiences were the sand storms, these used to commence daily at about 7 a.m., and blew with more or less violence until sundown. Every day there was a sand storm only varying in velocity and volume. The whole veldt in the neighbourhood of Bloemfontein was absolutely bare of grass where the various camps and hospitals had been pitched, and the wind swept across these bare plains carrying clouds of dust with it. This dust which contained the germs of every kind of disease penetrated everywhere and covered everything, including the food as it was being prepared in the cooking pots.

There is no doubt but that the enteric fever which was so prevalent in the Army was disseminated and spread by means of these dust storms, as it was found that more cases occurred on those outposts most exposed to the dust storms.

1901. On Saturday, January 12th, 1901, Lieutenant H. Norris and half the detachment were brought in from Ferreira Siding where they had been for about six weeks in charge of the sick horse lines.

On January 15th Captain H. Norris and "D" Company changed places at Sussex Hill with Captain Williams and "A" Company at St. Andrew's Hill.

On January 17th both Officers, lately at Sussex Hill, viz., Captain H. E. Du C. Norris and Lieutenant J. M. Corse-Scott, were taken into hospital with enteric fever. Several men also from Sussex Hill were admitted to hospital with same disease which was reappearing all round.

On Wednesday, January 23rd news was received of the death of Her Most Gracious Majesty Queen Victoria.

General C. Tucker took over the Command of the Orange River Colony vice General A. Hunter invalided. Colonel J. Godfray was Chief Staff Officer and Major Cavaye his A.D.C.

On Wednesday, January 23rd, General Tucker going round the outposts, said he considered the Battalion was attempting too much in occupying so many sheltered trenches, etc., and he ordered blockhouses to be constructed at each outpost.

On Thursday, 24th January, 1901, a Royal salute was fired and the Accession of His Majesty King Edward VII. of England was proclaimed.

The General's proposal of building blockhouses at each outpost was commenced on January 28th, a party of Kaffirs being sent to construct an enclosed fort at Long Hill.

On Thursday, February 7th, "B" Company, under Lieutenant Madge changed places at Middle Hill with "C" Company, under Lieutenant Yates.

On Monday, February 11th, Corporal Parkinson died of enteric fever, this made 30 cases of enteric in four weeks and of these 30 cases no less than 15 came from Sussex Hill. There were in these four weeks, five deaths.

On February 12th, during a severe thunderstorm two of the tents at Sussex Hill were struck by lightning, one or two rifles were damaged, and several men complained of shock and concussion causing partial paralysis which, however, passed off.

On Saturday, February 16th, Second Lieutenant W. Beatty joined from England and Lieutenant Redman, who had been transferred to the line Battalion Royal Warwickshire Regiment proceeded to Transvaal to join there.

On Tuesday, February 19th, Major Goold-Adams, the newly-appointed Governor of the Orange River Colony, took up his residence at Bloemfontein. The work of building blockhouses was continued all this month with Kaffir convict labour, under the C.R.E. (Lieutenant-Colonel Buston, R.E.)

February 23rd, Civil Surgeon Jones who had relieved Civil Surgeon Blackwood went away and was succeeded by Civil Surgeon Rust.

A detachment of the Mounted Infantry from Long Hill, strength 25 N.C. Officers and men, under 2nd Lieutenant Lacon, joined Major Massey's column. The following is a report of the work done:—

February 23rd, joined Major Massey's column south of No. 8, General Hospital. Column consisted of Marshall's Horse, Driscoll's Scouts, South African Constabulary, 78th Imperial Yeomanry, 3rd Mounted Infantry, 6th Royal Warwickshire Regiment Mounted Infantry, two 15-pounder guns, one Pom Pom, one Maxim, and four companies Royal Irish Fusiliers.

February 24th, left camp 7 a.m., marched till 2 p.m., then camped at Lockshoek, about 10 miles south west of Bloemfontein.

February 25th, left camp 6 a.m., 6th Royal Warwickshire Regiment Mounted Infantry formed rear guard; two waggons stuck which made us 12 miles behind column, had to destroy coats, forage, blankets, etc., to lighten waggons, finally reached camp about 11.30 p.m., with both waggons and ammunition. Main body had small fight near Karree Kuil; the casualty list was two killed, nine wounded, all of Driscoll's Scouts. Enemy numbered about 200. Two farms and forage destroyed; camped at Karree Kuil.

February 26th, did not move camp. Strong patrol of 100 men and Pom Pom went out, but saw nothing.

February 27th, left camp 6 a.m., 6th Royal Warwickshire Regiment main body, small skirmish about four miles out, guns shelled some kopjes, result not known. Just as we reached De Put, Boers fired on right flank and rear guard, both guns shelled the hills while Mounted Infantry went round the flanks, charging a few kopjes which held about 140 Boers, who turned and ran as soon as we reached the top. Several Boer saddles were emptied. Returned to camp about 7 p.m., six farms were burnt in this way. No. 6214 Private Thomas, 6th Battalion Royal Warwickshire Regiment Mounted Infantry, was mortally wounded and died the following day at Edenburg.

February 28th, left De Put 5.15 a.m., saw few Boers in a farm-house, which was afterwards burnt, also forage. One prisoner taken at the farm. Reached camp about 3 p.m.

March 1st, started 6 a.m., convoy of Refugees left us for Edenburg, reached camp 12 noon, nothing happened.

March 2nd, strong patrol went out, saw few Boers, captured and destroyed farm, and returned to camp.

March 3rd, another strong patrol went out about eight miles to farm. Forage was destroyed and family brought in; saw forty Boers. 6th Royal Warwickshire Regiment on picquet that night.

March 4th, left camp about 7 a.m. for Plagesfontein, which was reached about 2 p.m.

March 5th, patrols went out in morning, four men captured, two wounded, one officer of Driscoll's Scouts wounded in thigh. Strong patrol under Major Massey went out, saw a few Boers who sniped us, burnt forage and wrecked house.

March 6th, marched to Edenburg, arrived about 5 p.m., entrained that night and left about 6 p.m. for Virginia Siding, which was reached about 9 p.m., in pouring rain, detrained by 12 midnight and camped just outside station.

March 7th, remained in camp all day while other trains were unloading. Rained all day.

March 8th, left camp about 8 a.m., reached drift over river about 10.20 a.m., which was crossed by 4 p.m., then marched to Du Preez laager.

March 9th, left camp for Reitfontein, slight skirmishing on the way, no casualties.

March 10th, marched to Bulfontein drift, met Colonel William's column, camped there for night.

March 11th, marched to Bultpan, nothing happened.

March 12th, took ten men to Graspan, but saw nothing.

March 13th, strong patrol under Major Massey with Pom Pom left camp for a laager. Slight skirmishing, two prisoners of ours taken, one wounded in leg. I was sent out about 8.30. a.m. with a message telling them to march to Jackhals Kraal, which was about twenty miles distant. We arrived there at about 9 p.m. that night, making about eighteen hours in the saddle. Camped there with column.

March 14th, marched to Zand River station, where we stayed two days, then left for Bloemfontein by road.

March 17th, left Zand River 6 a.m., marched to Welgelegen and camped there.

March 18th, reached Smaldeel about 9 a.m., left again about 1 p.m., and marched to Vet River.

March 19th, marched to Brandfort, had small fight near Ensgevonden Station, one man killed under his horse. Left there 5 p.m., arrived at Brandfort about 9 p.m., in pouring rain, men slept in school house and church, horses in churchyard, officers in hotels.

March 20th, stayed at Brandfort.

March 21st, left 9.15 a.m., marched to Karree Siding and camped there.

March 22nd, left camp 6 a.m., marched to a camping ground about six miles south of Glen at Donker Hoek.

March 23rd, left camp 6 a.m., and reached Bloemfontein about 9 a.m.

February 25th, the battalion took over No. XXVII. Post on the Bloemspruit. To do this it was necessary to reduce all the Examining Guards from one N.C.O. and 9 Privates to one N.C.O. and three Privates.

"G" Company under Lieutenant Lancaster took over the Bloemspruit camp. "C" Company remaining at the camp between Thabanchu and Wepener roads.

On Friday, March 1st, Colonel McCalmont met with an accident while riding round outposts and was admitted to hospital suffering from concussion and fracture. Lieutenant Colonel Campbell took over the command of the Battalion. Colonel McCalmont remained in hospital until March 23rd, when he proceeded to Cape Town and thence to England by mail boat.



Private, 53rd, or 2nd Warwick Militia, 1855.

Marching Order.

During the month of March an obelisk of marble was erected in the Cemetery at Bloemfontein in memory of those N.C. officers and men of the Royal Warwickshire Regiment who had died in Bloemfontein, in 1900 and 1901, and been buried in the Cemetery there, containing the following names:—

### 2ND BATTALION.

No. 2452 Sergeant C. French No. 5637 L-Corporal B. O'Shea No. 4841 Private E. Franklin No. 4592 Private C. Boucher No. 2810 Private W. Morgan No. 3020 Private W. Hancox No. 2901 Private T. Hillyard No. 2791 Private W. Allen No. 1250 Private R. Clarke No. 4763 Private W. Taplin No. 2524 Private E. Earp No. 1319 Private J. Pearce

No. 2682 L-Corporal T. Whitmill
No. 3778 L-Corporal J. Martin
No. 4682 Private A. Jones
No. 2297 Private A. Willis
No. 4470 Private H. Wood
No. 7685 Private J. Benson
No. 5020 Private C. Cookson
No. 3096 Private T. Taylor
No. 3114 Private W. Partridge
No. 6670 Private H. Barnes
No. 2575 Private W. Nicholls.

# 3RD BATTALION.

No. 5740 Corporal A. Tuck

No. 4835 Private A. Bennett.

# 6TH BATTALION.

No. 3766 Private J. Bilton No. 7069 Private W. Cammerer No. 9581 Private C. Green No. 7243 Private E. Jeffs No. 3811 Private G. A. Bliss No. 7919 Private F. Raven No. 6948 Private A. N. Bragg No. 7778 Private J. Simmons No. 6446 Private E. Cordy

No. 7611 Private W. Bromwich No. 1541 Private L. Benton No. 5792 Corpl. W. Parkinson No. 7251 Private W. H. Osborne No. 7203 Private J. Morley No. 7342 Private J. H. Jones No. 7332 Private A. H. Baker No. 7751 Private W. Cox.

## VOLUNTEER SERVICE COMPANY.

No. 8289 Private J. Fairfield.

Towards the end of March the Battalion received orders to hold itself in readiness to move to Sanna's Post, about 25 miles due East of Bloemfontein, and relieve the 2nd Somerset L.I. then holding the place and the posts along the Bloemfontein and Thabanchu Road.

The move was commenced on March 30th, when "A" and "C" Companies, under Captain Williams and 2nd Lieutenant Beatty, strength 200 Non-commissioned Officers and men, proceeded to Sanna's Post, arriving there the following day.

On April 2nd, "B," "D," and "G" Companies, strength 198, under Lieutenant-Colonel Campbell, with Captain Madge, Lieutenants Norris and Lancaster, left for Sanna's Post. This detachment was followed on April 5th by "E," "F," and "H" Companies, strength 277, under Major and Adjutant Browne, Major Kelso, Lieutenants Hamilton and R. G. Beatty.

Major and Hon. Lieutenant-Colonel Campbell was appointed Commandant at Sanna's Post and Major and Adjutant Browne Station Staff Officer.

The command of Sanna's Post, or The Waterworks as it was otherwise called, extended from Boesman's Kop to Israel's Poort, the former place being garrisoned by Mounted Infantry sent from Bloemfontein.

The Waterworks, situated on the Western bank of the Modder River, supplied the town of Bloemfontein with water which was pumped up from the river, across which a dam had been built.

The Post was defended by 5 redoubts, each garrisoned by one company, and defensible on all sides.

There was a Maxim Machine Gun in the redoubt for the defence of the drift over the Modder River, and another in that immediately to the West of it.

The Signallers of the Battalion furnished a Signal Station connecting Boesman's Kop with Israel's Poort.

The distribution of the Battalion when at Sanna's Post was as follows:—

- "A," "C," "G," "E," and "H" Companies, with a section of the 65th Howitzer Battery, R.F.A., formed the garrison of the post itself, with twenty men of "C" Company under a Sergeant at Sepani, the next post across the Modder River on the Bloemfontein-Thabanchu Road.
  - "D" Company, under Lieutenant Norris, was at Ramahoutsie.
- "B" Company, under 2nd Lieutenant W. Beatty, was at Vlak Kraal.
- "F" Company, under Lieutenant Hamilton, was at Israel's Poort. All defensible posts along the same road.

Total strength: 12 Officers and 675 other ranks.

The remainder of the Battalion was distributed as follows:—Bloemfontein (sick):

Captain and Hon. Major E. W. Dawes. Lieutenant C. M. Yates. 74 other ranks.

Cape Town (Sick and Base Details):

Captain H. E. du C. Norris. Lieutenant J. M. Corse-Scott. 35 other ranks.

During the time the Battalion was stationed at Sanna's Post it furnished escorts for the variour convoys despatched from Bloemfontein to Ladybrand, being responsible for their safety between Boesman's Kop and Israel's Poort, at which latter place the Thabanchu garrison took charge. The Mounted Infantry Company under Captain Williams was constantly employed in scouting and patrolling.

The following extracts from the diary of the officer commanding will show the nature of the work the Mounted Infantry were called on to perform:—

April 1st: I was ordered with 30 Mounted Infantry to start at 4.30 a.m. to escort convoy to Ladybrand, 50 Infantry to ride in the wagons, in addition to the mounted escort.

A number of Boers were stated to have been seen at no great distance from the road. The roads were, however, reported to be too heavy for the wagons, so I was ordered to wait until the following day.

April 2nd: Escorted the 82 ox-wagons to Israel's Poort, returning the same night. Mounted Infantry sighted a small party of Boers who galloped away.

April 4th: Escorted another convoy to Israel's Poort with 30 Mounted Infantry. Again saw party of Boers, who did not attack.

April 6th: Native scouts located small party of Boers to the North and South of the camp.

April 7th: Sent 12 Mounted Infantry, in charge of a Sergeant, to escort small convoy.

April 10th: I took a patrol of 15 Mounted Infantry and 6 native scouts to the south of the camp. Captain Madge accompanied the party. About mid-day, some 10 miles from Sanna's Post, we saw some useful looking loose horses. We rounded them up, and took up a position on a kopje near a dam, where the horses were watered. While we were thus employed about a dozen Boers were seen galloping towards a hill in our front. The horses were got under cover, and the men in the best position that could be found. Another party of Boers, from 50 to 60 strong, then appeared moving towards

a strong position to our left, and threatening our line of retreat to the camp. This necessitated our immediate retirement, with the object of trying to arrive at the position first. The retirement was carried out under a heavy fire, one native scout being killed and one of the horses being hit. Several of the men had narrow escapes, as the firing was at short range. We arrived at the position first, having managed to bring away all the horses. After a time the Boers ceased firing, and we withdrew to the large hill called Paardekop, not far from camp, covered by a rear guard under Captain Madge, the Boers following at some considerable distance. We were then in a very strong position, which the Boers showed no desire to attack. After watching them for some time we retired to Sanna's Post, arriving there safely with the captured horses. The Boers who attacked us must have come from Piet Fourie's Commando, then reported as being in the neighbourhood of Donkerpoort.

April 9th: Escorted mails to Israel's Poort, and some 400 Basuto ponies to Koornspruit.

April 10th: Native scouts located small parties of Boers North of the camp.

April 11th: Native scouts who went out before daybreak in the direction of Brightside not having returned in the afternoon, I took out reconnoitring patrol to search for them. Saw about 12 Boers, who retired. Got back and found scouts had returned.

April 16th: Escorted convoy to Israel's Poort, and on return cleared a farm near Vlakkraal, the women and children being sent to the Refuge Camp at Bloemfontien.

April 17th: Patrol was fired on North of the camp. We cleared the farm at Mamena, also another, and brought in 20 women and children. Part of the harness of "U" Battery, R.H.A. was found in the farmhouse at Mamena, no doubt picked up after the action at Koornspruit.

April 18th: Patrol was fired on South of Thaba Kop from about 600 yards. Boers were under cover, and could not be accurately located. They got one of our horses.

April 19th: Followed up small party of Boers, but could not get near them. Searched several farms, and got some good saddles and bridles.

April 20th: Sent small patrol in the direction of Thaba, who reported seeing some Boers rounding up horses in the distance.

April 22nd: Went into Bloemfontein to draw some more horses. Patrol, which went to the northward, exchanged shots with some Boers at long ranges. No casualties.

April 24th: Took out patrol towards Thaba. Saw some 40 Boers in the distance, well posted. Scouts reported another 30 to the eastward.

April 25th: Patrol, which went northward, saw small party of Boers, who kept a good distance off.

April 26th: Sent out two patrols North and South. That which went North was fired on, but no one was hit.

April 27th: Scouts reported a number of Boers a few miles to the northward. Took out a party of 35 Mounted Infantry and 5 native scouts to reconnoitre. Saw a body of quite 100 Boers, who retired, shots being exchanged at long ranges. Found their camp fires and forage, which latter was burnt.

Towards the end of April the Battalion received orders to hold itself in readiness to return to England, several Militia Battalions having arrived in South Africa in relief.

On April 29th, 60 N.C. officers and men of the Mounted Infantry Company which had been in process of increase to 75, returned to Bloemfontein, under Captain Williams, to return horses, saddlery, etc.

On May 4th, "F," "B," and "D" Companies were relieved from Israel's Poort, Vlak Kraal, Ramahoutsie, and Sepani by detachments of the 2nd Battalion Bedfordshire Regiment, and returned to Sanna's Post where they bivouacked for the night.

On the same date "G" Company, under Lieutenant Lancaster, with Lieutenant and Quartermaster Hall, left for Bloemfontein with the heavy baggage.

On May 5th, "B," "D," and "F" Companies, under Captain Madge with Lieutenants Hamilton and Norris, marched to Bloemfontein at daylight, arriving there the same day.

In the afternoon of May 4th, the Headquarters of the 2nd Battalion Bedfordshire Regiment arrived at Sanna's Post to relieve the remaining Companies of the Battalion, viz., "A," "C," "E," and "H," which Companies, under Lieutenant Colonel Campbell with Major and Adjutant Browne, Lieutenant Lacon, and Second Lieutenant Beatty, marched at 10.30 a.m., on May 5th. The detachment bivouacked at Rhenoster Spruit for the night, marched at 4.30 a.m., on the 6th, reaching Bloemfontein at 6.30 a.m. where it entrained.

Second Lieutenant W. Beatty left the Battalion at Bloemfontein and Lieutenant R. G. Beatty at Beaufort West, both having been selected for employment with the Mounted Infantry. The former officer subsequently obtained a commission in the 19th Hussars, the latter in the Royal Warwickshire Regiment.

The Battalion proceeded to Cape Town in two trains on May 6th. The first consisting of the Drums and left half Battalion, under Major Kelso, left Bloemfontein at 10.30 a.m., arriving at Cape Town in the afternoon of May 9th, where it embarked. The second train,

consisting of the right half Battalion, under Lieutenant-Colonel Campbell, left at 12.30 p.m., stopped at Edenburg for the night of the 6th, Naauwpoort on the night of the 7th, reaching Cape Town at daylight on the 10th, embarking at 9 a.m.

It should be mentioned that shortly after the second train had arrived at Edenburg at dusk the Boers blew up the line in three places to the South, and an escort of twenty men, under Captain Williams, proceeded early the next morning to protect the repairing party. The damage done had not, fortunately, been at all extensive.

The Battalion—strength: 11 Officers, 1 Warrant Officer, 724 other ranks—sailed from Cape Town at 1.30 p.m., on the 11th May, in the s.s. "Bavarian," hired transport No. 16, a twin screw steamer of 10,000 tons, belonging to the Allan Line.

Colonel H. N. B. Good, 6th Battalion Royal Fusiliers, was in Command.

The detail of Troops and others on board the ship were as follows:—Officers, 56; Ladies, 20; Children, 10; Warrant Officers, Non-commissioned Officers and Men, 1,336; Women, 10; Children, 12; total, 1,442.

Las Palmas was reached about mid-day on the 25th May after an uneventful voyage.

No one was allowed to land, however, the ship being quarantined owing to the existence of plague at Cape Town, and it sailed again about 3 p.m.

On Friday, May 31st, the s.s. "Bavarian" passed Prawle Point at 7 a.m., and passed the Needles at 3 p.m. same day, anchoring off Netley for the Health Officer's visit at 4 p.m., and she was finally berthed alongside the troopship quay at Southampton at 6.30 p.m.

The following Officers arrived home with the Battalion :-

Major and Lieutenant-Colonel J. E. R. Campbell, in Command.

Captain and Hon. Major A. Kelso.

Captain and Hon. Major E. W. Dawes.

Captain A. E. Williams.

Captain C. A. Madge.
Lieutenant C. F. P. Hamilton.
Lieutenant H. Norris.
Lieutenant G. H. U. Lacon.
Lieutenant J. C. Lancaster.
Major and Adjutant F. G. F.
Browne.

Lieut. & Quartermaster W. Hall.

Captain C. H. L. Beatty, who had been serving on the Staff, arrived the same day on mail boat "Norman" and joined at Southampton.

The following officers joined at Southampton:—

Colonel H. McCalmont, M.P. Major G. D.' E. H. Fullerton.

Captain J. B. Ludford-Astley. Captain H. E. Du C. Norris.

Captain Williams, who was on the sick list, proceeded direct to his home ou landing.

25 N.C. officers and men were transferred to Netley Hospital, mostly suffering from enteric fever.

The Battalion proceeded on Saturday, June 1st, 1901, by special train from Southampton to Birmingham, where they arrived at Snow Hill station at 12.15 p.m., and marched through the streets to the Square in front of the Town Hall where they were drawn up and received an address of welcome from the Lord Mayor of Birmingham after which they proceeded to the Volunteer Drill Hall, in Thorpe Street, where refreshments were provided for the men and a luncheon for the officers.

The Volunteers paraded with a guard of honour at the station, and there was the greatest enthusiasm displayed by all classes in the city at the return of the Battalion.

After the luncheon the Battalion returned to Snow Hill station and thence by special train to Warwick, where another great reception awaited them, the Warwickshire Imperial Yeomanry furnishing guards of houour and escorts. In the Market Square the Battalion was addressed by Lord Leigh (the Lord Lieutenant of the County), and by the Mayor of Warwick (Alderman Glover), and having received back its colours from the Officer Commanding 6th Regimental District, marched to Budbrook where it encamped until Monday, June 3rd, when it was finally paid off and dismissed.

On Monday, July 29th, 1901, his Majesty King Edward VII. distributed personally medals for the South African campaign to the officers and permanent staffs of those Militia Battalions which had returned from the war. The 6th Battalion Royal Warwickshire Regiment were the first to receive theirs.

The ceremony took place in the garden at Marlborough House, and the following Officers and men had the honour of being presented with their medals by H. M. the King himself:—

Colonel H. McCalmont, M.P., Commanding.

Major and Hon. Lieutenant-Colonel J. E. R. Campbell.

Major G. D'. E. H. Fullerton.

Captain and Hon. Major A. Kelso.

Captain and Hon. Major E. W. Dawes.

Captain J. B. Ludford-Astley. Captain C. H. L. Beatty.

Captain W. Davenport.

Captain H. E. du C. Norris.

Captain A. E. Williams.

Captain C. A. Madge.

Lieutenant Hubert Norris.

Lieutenant G. H. U. Lacon.

Lieutenant J. C. Lancaster.

Lieutenant C. H. Yates.

Lieutenant J. M. Corse-Scott.

Major and Adjutant F. G. F. Browne.

Lieutenant and Quartermarter W. Hall.

Lieutenant C. F. P. Hamilton, who had been transferred in May, 1901, to the Scots Guards, was also present on parade to receive his medal.

#### PERMANENT STAFF AND DRUMMERS.

- No. 918 Sergeant Major W. Parker.
- No. 1801 Quartermaster Sergt. T. Powell.
- No. 354 Sergt. Instructor of Musketry E. Lilley.
- No. 1503 Sergt. Drummer T. Mason.
- No. 6224 Orderly Room Sergt. W. Millington.
- No. 367 Colour Sergeaut W. H. Fisher.
- No. 286 Colour Sergeant C. Sheaf.
- No. 3956 Colour-Sergeant W. Bell.

- No. 1963 Colour-Sergeant W. T. Fitter.
- No. 2328 Colour Sergeant J. Simms.
- No. 6377 Colour-Sergeant W. J. Belben.
- No. 6524 Colour Sergeant F. Morgan.
- No. 1074 Sergeant R. Frayne.
- No. 290 Sergeant T. Brittain.
- No. 1383 Sergeant H. Parkes.
- No. 2205 Sergt. T. McGorrian.
- No. 1440 Sergt. J. W. Clapp.
- No. 2110 Sergeant W. Allitt.
- No. 1386 Sergeant T. Clews.

### DRUMMERS.

- No. 5427 Corporal T. Cox.
- No. 7127 Lance Corporal T. Goodall.
- No. 4438 Drummer A. Cox.
- No. 6535 Drummer E. Harvey.
- No. 5277 Drummer J. Hingley.
- No. 7202 Drummer L. Lines.
- No. 1756 Drummer F. O'Reilly.
- No. 5677 Drummer R.Oughton.

- No. 5678 Drummer T.Oughton.
- No. 5672 Drummer J. Reynolds
- No. 4403 Drummer T. Scandrett.
- No. 6085 Drummer J. Smith.
- No. 6538 Drummer D. Smith.
- No. 6536 Drummer A. Stanton.
- No. 5674 Drummer F. Stanton.
- No. 4006 Drummer C. Wilkes.

The above Non-commissioned officers and drummers journeyed from Warwick to London in the morning, and after the parade at Marlborough House returned to Warwick.

On Saturday, October 26th, the medals for the South African campaign were presented to the remainder of the Battalion by Lord Leigh, the Lord Lieutenant of Warwickshire, the men being assembled in plain clothes, at the Volunteer Drill Hall, Thorpe Street, Birmingham, for that purpose. Lord Leigh personally presented the medals, and shook hands with every man who received one. There were upwards of 660 men on parade.

The numbers who actually took part in the South African campaign were as follows:—

Officers, 29 (including Captain H. E. du C. Norris, 5th Battalion).

Non-commissioned officers and men, 898.

The actual losses during the campaign were: -

Officers, nil; non-commissioned officers and men, 26 (including 3 who died at Netley Hospital).

Of these the majority died of enteric fever at Bloemfontein, 63 men were invalided home, and not a few died subsequently from the effects of the campaign on their systems.

Lieutenant H. Norris obtained a commission in the Royal Warwickshire Regiment, and Lieutenant J. M. Corse-Scott in the Royal Scots (Lothian Regiment).

In all, 13 officers who served with the Battalion in South Africa obtained commissions in the Regular Army. Of these Lieutenants Heseltine and Norris were the only two who underwent the examinations.

#### GAZETTE.

The following notice appeared in the London Gazette of the 10th September, 1901:—

Mentioned for services by Lord Roberts:—6th Battalion Royal Warwickshire Regiment:

Lieutenant Colonel and Hon. Colonel H. McCalmont.

Major and Hon. Lieutenant Colonel J. E. R. Campbell.

Major and Adjutant F. G. F. Browne.

Captain and Hon. Major A. Kelso.

Captain C. H. L. Beatty.

No. 918 Sergeant-Major W. Parker.

No. 1801 Quartermaster-Sergeant T. Powell.

No. 3956 Colour-Segeant W. Bell.

No. 5156 Sergeant W. Allen.

No. 7121 Sergeant W.T. Howes.

No. 5484 Corporal J. Hoare.

In addition to the above, on August 20th, 1901, Lord Kitchener mentioned the following:—

Captain C. H. L. Beatty, 6th Battalion Royal Warwickshire Regiment.

On Tuesday, September 24th, 1901, the following decorations and rewards were published in the *London Gazette*:--

6th Battalion Royal Warwickshire Regiment:—Lieutenant Colonel and Hon. Colonel H. L. B. McCalmont, to be a Companion of the Order of the Bath.

Major and Hon. Lieutenant Colonel J. E. R. Campbell, to be a Companion of the Distinguished Service Order.

Captain C. H. L. Beatty, to be a Companion of the Distinguished Service Order.

No. 918 Sergeant-Major W. Parker and No. 1801 Quartermaster Sergeant T. Powell to have the medul for distinguished conduct in the field.

Owing to the Battalion having been so recently disembodied, no regular training was held this year, but the recruits who were willing to come were called up in August to perform their course of musketry at the range which had recently been constructed at Wedgnock Park, Warwick, remaining subsequently for a training (voluntary) of 27 days.

A Maxim Machine Gun was issued to the Battalion.

On return of the Battalion from South Africa the whole of the equipment was found unserviceable and condemned, and pattern dated 1888 was issued in lieu.

Captain C. A. Madge and Second Lieutenant O. T. R. Crawshay were attached to the 5th Battalion Royal Warwickshire Regiment on its re-embodiment in December, and sailed in January with it for service in South Africa, this making Captain Madge's second period of service in that country.

During this year the Bounties paid to Militiamen were reorganised as under:—

Class.	Description of Bounty.	Former Rate.	New Rate.	
Recruits	Recruits Bounty	£1 10s. to £2 0s.	£1 10s. to £2.	
Boys	Training Bounty	£1 0s.	£1 10s.	
N.C. officers and men other than recruits	Training Bounty issued on completion of Training	£1 0s.	£1 10s.	
Ditto.	Non-Training Bounty issued, on dates given to men who have completed two trainings, or the equivalent thereof	Nil.	1st Oct., £1. 1st Dec., £1. 1st Feb., £1.	

Good conduct badges with pay were granted to Militiamen below the rank of Corporal, who had completed the requisite period of service with the Regular Army or Embodied Militia.

Messing allowance at 3d. per day was issued to

- (a) Non-commissioned officers.
- (b) Men who had served
  - (i.) At least 6 months in the Army or Embodied Militia.
  - (ii.) At least one Training or the recognised equivalent thereof in the Militia.

Men in class (b) were only eligible from the date of their attaining 19 years of age and were certified to have made satisfactory progress.

Enlistments into the Militia Reserve and Special Service Section were discontinued, it having been decided to abolish them.

The daily rates of pay of the Militia were:—Sergeant, 2s. 4d.; Corporals, 1s. 8d.; Privates, 1s.; Boys, 8d.; the Sergeants and Corporals now receiving the same rate as those of the Regular Army.

1902. On May 26th the recruits assembled at Warwick and proceeded to Wedgnock Park, Warwick, under command of Major and Adjutant F. G. F. Browne, where they were encamped for the course of musketry.

The strength of the party was 9 officers and 364 other ranks.

Captain J. B. R. Bacchus, 1st Pattalion Royal Warwickshire Regiment, was appointed Instructor of Musketry.

On June 9th the remainder of the Battalion assembled at Warwick and proceeded to Aldershot for the 27 days' annual training.

The following officers were present:—

Colonel H. L. B. McCalmont, C.B., M.P., Commanding.

Major and Hon. Lieut.-Colonel J. E. R. Campbell, D.S.O.

Major A. Kelso. Captain and Hon. Major E. W.

Dawes.
Captains C. H. L. Beatty,

D.S.O., A. E. Williams, C. C. Hook, J. C. Lancaster.

Lieutenant A. H. F. Hodgson.

Second Lieutenants G. H.
Plinston, H. A. O. Hanley,
C. C. Tee, A. E. Willoughby,
L. H. Wilcox.

Major and Adjutant F. G. F. Browne.

Captain J. B. R. Bacchus, 1st Battalion Royal Warwickshire Regiment, Instructor of Musketry.

Lieutenant and Quartermaster W. Hall.

The Battalion was encamped on Cove Common, and formed part of the 2nd Militia Brigade under Colonel C. H. Collette as Brigadier General.

The other Battalions in the Brigade were:—4th Royal Welsh Fusiliers, 5th Worcester Regiment, 4th Shropshire Light Infantry.

On June 17th the Battalion took part in the Royal Review held on Laffans Plain by command of his Majesty the King, who, however, owing to indisposition, was unable to be present.

The march past took place in very wet weather and in a sea of mud, before Her Majesty Queen Alexandra and H.R.H. the Prince of Wales.

The 6th Battalion Royal Warwickshire Regiment was the strongest Battalion on parade. About 36,000 troops of all arms were present, including many Militia Battalions from all parts of the United Kingdom.

Colonel H. L. B. McCalmont, C.B., M.P., was selected to represent the Militia Forces of the United Kingdom and to ride in the Royal Procession through London on June 27th.

Captain A. E. Williams with the Drums and 120 other ranks of the Battalion was selected to form part of the Composite Battalion furnished by the 2nd Militia Brigade to take part in the Coronation ceremonies and processions in London on June 26th and 27th. Major and Adjutant F. G. F. Browne was selected as Adjutant of the same Composite Battalion.

These proceedings were unfortunately abandoned at the eleventh hour, owing to the serious illness of His Majesty, which necessitated the Coronation being put off until August 9th.

The Inspection by Brigadier General C. H. Collette, Commanding 2nd Militia Brigade, took place on Thursday, July 3rd.

The strength of the Battalion was as follows:—

Licut. Colonel.	Majors.	Captains.	Sub- alterns.	Staff.	Sergeant Major.	Sergeants.	Corporals.	Drum'rs.	Privates.	Total all Ranks.
1	2	5	6	2	1	29	21	8	911	986

The Battalion returned to Warwick and was dismissed on July 5th.

Captain C. A. Madge and Lieutenant O. T. R. Crawshay were absent with the 5th Royal Warwickshire Regiment in South Africa.

Lieutenant Crawshay returned with the 5th Battalion on September 27th. Captain Madge remained in South Africa with the Boer Repatriation Committee.

Captain G. I. Phillips, who had been continuously employed since 1900 in South Africa, returned home in August of this year, having held the post of Staff Captain to the Director of Railways, Johannesburg, since May, 1901.

Captain Davenport was absent from the Annual Training, being employed as Assistant Earl Marshal, in which capacity he took part in the Coronation Ceremony in Westminster Abbey on August 9th.

In the London Gazette of July 29th the following Officers and Non-commissioned Officers were further mentioned for their services in South Africa, 1900 and 1901:—

Major and Adjutant F. G. F. Browne.

Captain C. A. Madge.

No. 3956 Colour-Sergt.W. Bell. No. 354 Sergeant of Musketry E. Lilley.

On August 9th Colonel H. L. B. McCalmont, C.B., M.P., represented the Battalion at the Coronation Ceremony of His Majesty the King as a spectator in the Mall.

On December 8th Lieutenant-Colonel and Hon. Colonel H. L. B. McCalmont, C.B., M.P. for the Newmarket Division of Cambridgeshire, Commanding the Battalion, died very suddenly of heart disease at his residence in London. The interment took place at Cheveley, near Newmarket, on December 12th. The following Officers of the Battalion were present:—

Major and Hon. Lieut.-Colonel J. E. R. Campbell, D.S.O.

Major and Hon. Lieut.-Colonel A. Kelso.

Captain and Hon. Major E. W. Dawes.

Captains C. H. L. Beatty, D.S.O., W. H. Davenport, A. E. Williams, G. I. Phillips, C. C. Hook, J. C. Lancaster. Lieutenant A. H. F. Hodgson. 2nd Lieutenaut L. H. Wilcox. Major and Adjutant F. G. F. Browne.

Sergeant-Major W. Parker and 13 Non-commissioned Officers of the 6th Battalion, Quartermaster-Sergeant Stevens and two Noncommissioned Officers of the 5th Battalion, and one Non-commissioned Officer of the Depôt Royal Warwickshire Regiment were also present, and, with the Non-commissioned Officers of the Scots Guards, assisted in carrying the Body to the grave.

- 1903. The following announcement appeared in the London Gazette of January 6th:—
  - "6th Battalion Royal Warwickshire Regiment:
- "Major and Hon. Lieutenant-Colonel J. E. R. Campbell, D.S.O., to be Lieutenant-Colonel and to Command under para 44 Militia Regulations.
  - "Dated 11th December, 1902."

Under Army Order 233 of 1902, para 6 (a), the Officers, Warrant Officer, Non-commissioned Officers and men of the Battalion who served in South Africa in 1901 became entitled to a further clasp to the Queen's South African Medal for "South Africa, 1901," in addition to those they had already gained, viz.: "Cape Colony," "Orange Free State."

It should be mentioned that Captain C. H. L. Beatty, D.S.O., received in addition the following clasps, viz.: "Johannesburg," "Diamond Hill," and "Belfast."

Captain C. A. Madge and No. 5421 Private Egginton received the clasp for "Johannesburg," having been present at that engagement.

Captain G. I. Phillips and Captain C. A. Madge received the King's South African Medal with clasps for 1901 and 1902.

A new "Reserve Division" of the Militia was commenced in pursuance of Army Order 36 of 1903.

The following men were eligible:—Men discharged from the Regular Army after 3 years colour service. Men invalided from the Regular Army after 3 years colour service. Men who had served 10 years in the Militia.

The term of enlistment or re-engagement was 4 years.

They were liable to be called up for service with the Militia when the Militia were embodied.

They were liable, on embodiment, to be transferred from one Militia unit to another.

The men received reserve pay as follows:-

Men who join from the Royal Garrison Regiment, £1 10s. on 1st January, 1st April, 1st July, and 1st of October.

Other men: £1 on 1st October, 1st December, 1st February, and £1 10s. on the 1st July.

They were liable to be called up for Musketry Instruction for 3 days each year.

#### Succession of Commanding Officers

FROM DATE OF FORMATION OF THE REGIMENT.

- Lieutenant-Colonel Sir T. G. Skipwith, Bart., late 2nd Dragoon Guards, was Major in the 1st Warwick Militia and was promoted to the 2nd by the Earl of Warwick. Appointed April 2nd, 1853, retired March 9th, 1858.
- Lieutenant-Colonel F. Granville, late Major 23rd Fusiliers, transferred from 1st Warwick Militia by the Earl of Warwick on the formation of the 2nd Regiment. Promoted March 10th, 1858, retired January 29th, 1878.
- Lieutenant-Colonel G. D. S. Perkins, promoted January 29th, 1878, retired June 26th, 1888.
- Lieutenant-Colonel M. W. Furness, promoted June 26th, 1888, retired October 3rd, 1890.
- Lieutenant-Colonel J. Gildea, C.B., promoted October 3rd, 1890, retired October 29th, 1898.
- Lieutenant-Colonel H. L. B. McCalmont, C.B., M.P., late Royal West Kent Militia, 6th Foot, Scots Guards. Promoted November 23rd, 1898, deceased December 8th, 1902.
- Lieutenant-Colonel J. E. R. Campbell, D.S.O., promoted 11th December, 1902.

### SUCCESSION OF ADJUTANTS

SINCE THE FORMATION OF THE REGIMENT.

- Captain K. Mackenzie, late Captain 3rd Foot, appointed on formation March 26th, 1853, retired October 18th, 1858.
- Captain R. D. Knight, late Captain 98th Foot, appointed January 14th, 1859, to 31st December, 1875.
- Captain Spencer Field, 6th Foot, appointed June 8th, 1876, to 1st July, 1878.



- Captain C. R. Gibbs, 6th Foot, appointed July 1st, 1878, to 15th September, 1883.
- Captain W. E. Scott, Royal Warwickshire Regiment, appointed September 15th, 1883, to September 14th, 1888.
- Captain (since Major) N. F. A. Maunsell, Royal Warwickshire Regiment, appointed September 15th, 1888, to September 14th, 1893.
- Captain D. Granville, Royal Warwickshire Regiment, appointed September 15th, 1893, retired May 17th, 1898.
- Captain (since Major) F. G. F. Browne, Royal Warwickshire Regiment, appointed May 18th, 1898.





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